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AND
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IN MEMORIAM.

FRANK, Son of Jas. R. and E. M. MUDIE, died 6th January, 1896; aged 3 years.

"They shall be Mine, saith the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up My jewels."

DEATHS.

At Kennington, Ashford, Kent, on Christmas Day, the Rev. JAMES IND WELLDON, D.C.L., Vicar of the Parish and Hon. Canon of Canterbury Cathedral: aged 85.

At Shanghai, on the 1st January, 1897, EMMA CECILIA, beloved wife of Wm. BRUMFIELD, aged 26 years.

At Shanghai, on the 3rd January, 1897, JOHN R. MACBETH, a native of Charlestown, South Carolina, aged 63 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAIIS.

The American mail of the 10th December arrived, per O. & O. steamer *Doric*, on the 8th January (29 days); the English mail of the 11th December arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Mirzapore*, on the 11th January (31 days); and the German mail of the 14th December arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Heinrich*, on the 13th January (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Her Majesty—the Empress-Dowager of Japan died on the 11th January from inflammation of the lungs.

It is reported that Sir Halliday Macartney contemplates early retirement from his position as Secretary of the Chinese Legation at London.

At Shanghai on New Year's Day a European lady who was alone in her room was burnt to death through her clothes catching fire. There were some peculiar circumstances attending the case, in consequence of which an inquest was held. The evidence disclosed a distressing tale of domestic unhappiness.

Another armed robbery took place at Hongkong on the evening of the 9th January.

It is reported that Hong Chongwo, the murderer of Kim Ok-kiun, has been appointed Vice-Minister of Justice in Korea.

The Emperor of Japan has been suffering from a feverish cold, but was improving at the date of our latest Japan exchanges received.

Dr. J. I. Welldon, the father of Lady Mitchell, wife of the Governor of the Straits Settlements, died at Canterbury on Christmas Day, at the ripe age of 85.

It is considered probable that the King of Siam may visit England this year to take part in the celebration of the completion of the sixtieth year of the Queen's reign.

The *China Gazette* understands that the Chinese authorities on the 6th January paid to Messrs. Fergusson and Co., Chefoo, the sum of Tls. 30,000 in settlement of their claim arising out of the foreshore dispute.

A telegram has been received in Japan stating that American silk manufacturers in conference at Hudson have determined to petition for a high import duty upon Japanese silk-goods—\$4 per lb. on white silks and \$3 per lb. on coloured; 50 per cent. ad valorum on mixed cotton and silk.

The trial at Yokohama of Mrs. Carew on a charge of murdering her husband, which was commenced on the 5th January, is still proceeding. A new development took place on the 11th, when Mr. Lowder, the prisoner's counsel, charged the nurse, Miss Jacobs, with committing the murder and had her arrested. The trial of Mrs. Carew was thereupon adjourned until the 13th.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 2nd January states that the Siamese Minister for Finance, who recently arrived in Tokyo, has communicated the desire of his Government to conclude a treaty between the two countries on equal terms. The Government is considering the matter, as the laws of Siam are incomplete and that country is behind Japan in its progress towards civilization.

The French mail steamer *Salazie*, which arrived at Singapore from Saigon on the 28th December, had on board the remains of the late Governor-General of Indo-China, M. Rousseau. Next day the flags on the Government buildings, the Consulates, and on H.M.S. *Alacrity* and other ships in the harbour were at half mast, and minute guns were fired from the man-of-war. The remains of the late M. Rousseau are being accompanied home to France by Madame Rousseau and her family.

The following from the *Nagasaki Shipping List*, gives rather a graphic idea of the severity of the cold snap that struck Shanghai the week before Christmas:—A terrific blizzard was experienced at Shanghai and on the Yangtsze last week, the gale blowing 10, and the cold being intense. After passing the bar at noon, the sun melted some of the ice off the P.M. liner *City of Rio de Janeiro*, and the slabs of crystal fell off her in pieces as big as doors. One gentleman on board reported that he had not experienced so severe a blizzard in the forty years he has been in these waters.

A leading firm at Shanghai having been informed by wire that a shipment they were expecting would be treated as a total loss, and being asked if the shippers should replace it, it was assumed that a serious casualty had happened to an outward bound vessel from home. It was afterwards ascertained that the vessel wrecked was an English coasting steamer, carrying goods from Manchester for transhipment at London.

The *Singapore Free Press* of the 30th December says.—A transaction yesterday in Tanjong Pagar shares establishes a record. Shares of the value of \$100 in our big local company were sold for \$335, which we believe is quite the high water mark for the Dock. It shows public opinion as to the solidity of the T.P.D. Co. and its ability to earn dividends. The interest paid lately has been seven per cent. per half year, so that at the price fetched yesterday the return on the investment is a fraction under four per cent.—good enough, apparently, by the side of the two per cent. at home, in spite of the fluctuating value of the dollar.

Some time ago some letters appeared in the *Straits Times* commenting strongly on the action of a Spanish priest at Manila who was accused of having violated the seal of the confessional by revealing to the authorities there the information about the impending rebellion, and which information, it is said, was imparted to him by a woman in the confessional. Bishop Bourdon wrote to the Archbishop of Manila and he has just received a reply. The Archbishop has asked Bishop Bourdon to give an authoritative denial to the accusation, which he calls a gross calumny. The discovery of the conspiracy was due to a girl who was being educated in a convent at Manila. She heard of it and she spoke of it to the superioress, who in her turn spoke of it to an Augustinian friar, and it was this latter who communicated the information to the civil authority. From the above explanation our readers, says the *Straits Times*, will see that, although the information was received by the authorities from a friar, yet the confessional had nothing to do with it.

Mr. John L. Sullivan, stock and share broker, of Shanghai, has issued a table showing the differences between values of local stocks on 31st December, 1895, and 31st December, 1896. The total appreciation was Tls. 4,993,510, and the depreciation Tls. 1,586,843, the actual net gain being Tls. 3,406,667. The principal appreciation was in Langkat Tobacco, Tls. 760,000; next come Raubs, with a round \$1,000,000, followed by Hongkong Fires, \$760,000, Shanghai Waterworks, Tls. 489,600, Shanghai Lands, Tls. 283,608, Hongkong Lands, \$400,000, and other companies with smaller amounts. On the depreciation side Indo-Chinas head the list with Tls. 644,657 and Hongkong and Shanghai Banks come next with \$300,000. The result of comparative analysis tables for years is given as follows:

	Loss by shrinkage	Gain by appreciation
1892	Tls. 11,144,274	
1893		2,836,628
1894		Tls. 12,750,693
1895		12,182,406
1896		Tls. 3,406,667
		Tls. 13,980,902
		Tls. 16,298,700

RUSSIA AND MANCHURIA.

Whatever may be the intentions of the Russian Government with regard to the future in Manchuria, there is no doubt as to the opinions of the Russian Press. When the railways are once laid in Manchuria, Russian domination will commence, to be followed very speedily by Russian administration. Nominally, and according to the Treaty, the country will remain Chinese, and the Government of Peking will retain the option of purchasing the railways laid by Russian skill and capital, but is it expected by any one that China will ever be in a position to exercise this option? Of course it is possible; there may be an active Chinaman now lying *perdu* who will do for his country what no mandarin—not even the somewhat blatant CHANG CHIH-TUNG—has ever yet succeeded in doing. The latter, it will be remembered, recovered for China from the clutches of the Great Bear the territory of Kuldja, which during the long struggle with YAKOOB BEG had been administered by the Siberian Government. This was, however, in the days when the resources of China were an unknown quantity and it was believed that she was a force to be reckoned with in Asiatic politics. Now that Japan has pricked the Celestial bubble and dissipated for the time being even the little power of resistance she really possessed, Russia is not likely to be coerced by the wild menaces of a literary mandarin, nor to be much moved by the most solemn rumblings from the Tsung-li Yamen. As we have said before, if Russia wants Manchuria and means to stay there nothing but force will dislodge her. At present it is not certain that her Government desire anything but a continuation of their great Trans-Siberian Railway through Manchuria to the coast into an unfrozen port. That the Russian Press have other thoughts on the subject, however, is obvious from a statement recently published in a St. Petersburg journal on the return to Russia in the latter end of November of the members of a special mission sent some time back by the Russian Government to survey and investigate the resources of Manchuria. These surveyors are reported to have said:—"The Chinese are not only delighted with the idea [of a railway "through Manchuria], from which they expect great benefits both in commerce and agriculture, but openly state that they would be more than delighted if all Manchuria became Russian territory, and that the greater part of the inhabitants would in such case cut off their pigtails, or in other words become Russian subjects."

This shows the way the wind blows. The wish no doubt runs with the statement, but we are not prepared to say there is not some solid foundation for it. It is notorious that the Russian Government have the knack of making their rule welcome to the tribes of Central Asia. This is the testimony of travellers in various parts of the vast areas lately absorbed by Russia. Mr. THEODORE BENT, in an interesting account of recent journeys in Armenia, in the November issue of the *Contemporary*, testifies emphatically to the liberal manner in which the Armenians are treated, and the prosperity attained by them, in that portion of Armenian territory which has come under the rule of the CZAR. The contrast between the condition of the Armenians under Turkish or Persian rule and that of the CZAR's subjects of the same race is very striking. Mr. BENT says:—"If the statesmen of Western Europe could all be made to take a journey through Turkish and Persian Armenia, and then

"find themselves comfortably housed in a good hotel in Russian Armenia, I think there would be no further talk of bolstering up Mahomedan countries." An Armenian at Nachiteran dares to be rich and builds for himself a handsome house without fear of a visit from an extortionate pasha. He dresses in European costume, and his wife has abandoned the primitive and picturesque for the modes of the West. Describing Etchmiazin, the see of the northern patriarchate of the Armenians, Mr. BENT says this city may be said to represent all the national vitality that the Armenians now possess. "Here, under the wing of Russia, they have ventured to assert themselves as a nation once more. Here they keep a museum of their national curiosities; here they have an academy for the instruction of 300 young Armenians, a fine building with a Council hall, containing the picture of the Patriarch GEORGE, who founded it about twenty years ago. Class rooms for various grades occupy two long corridors; a library of choice books of all nations is attached; there are dormitories for young men, which in cleanliness would not disgrace a first class English school; and a playground where the Armenian boys were enjoying themselves like boys in England. What a striking contrast to the miserable school at Sis [Turkish Armenia], where the scholars dare scarcely speak their own language, and terror reigned supreme." In the khanates of Central Asia the same liberal policy is pursued, and the inhabitants are won over to speak of the Great White Czar as their Father. The Mongols have for many years been steadily gravitating towards Russia, who could without the slightest difficulty gain the great Mongolian steppes and deserts by a plebiscite if necessary. The Mongolians would eagerly, if permitted, transfer their allegiance from the Son of Heaven to the Czar of all the Russias. No doubt the members of the Russian Mission to Manchuria are correct in the conclusions they formed concerning the Manchurians. During the recent war the people of Manchuria suffered far more injury from the Chinese troops than from the Japanese, who scrupulously paid for all they had, and were accordingly welcomed. Not only do the Chinese oppress them in times of peace, but they harass and rob them during hostilities, and at the same time fail to protect them from invasion. The inducements therefore to welcome foreign rule are strong, while the old feeling of loyalty to the Ta-tsing dynasty has worn pretty threadbare during the centuries they have been absorbed by China. For both the dynasty and the country of the Manchu conquerors have been effectually absorbed by the sons of Han, who may be conquered but cannot be assimilated.

THE PROTECTION OF THE COALING STATIONS.

It is satisfactory to learn, on the authority of so reliable a Minister as Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, that the Government, when laying the next Estimates before Parliament, will ask for large amounts for the defence of the coaling stations. As the right honourable baronet at the same time stated that he had reason—and as Chancellor of the Exchequer he should have very good reason—to expect a fair surplus, it is probable the House will not be unwilling to vote the sums asked for. We say this is satisfactory, because it is high time that some steps should be taken to place the coaling stations in such a position as to

render them defensible against outside attack. Hitherto it has been the policy of the British Government to trust rather to the unlikelihood of attack than to provide against the contingency. It is true that some ten years ago, moved by the representations of the naval and military experts and influenced perhaps in some measure by the restlessness of certain of the European Powers, an effort was made to fortify the coaling stations and make them pay a large share of the cost. This latter contribution was not grudged by the Colonies, as the mother country provided the armament, by far the most expensive portion of the work. So far good; but after sending out in most cases very small reinforcements to the garrisons the energies of the Imperial Government became exhausted; and the result is that, at the present moment, there are in few of the coaling stations sufficient men to do more than just man the guns. In one or two instances, perhaps, this might not matter much, as they are within reach of assistance and can be looked after, but in the case of Hongkong, the eastern Ultima Thule of the Empire, and within easy striking distance by more than one great Power, the impolicy of trusting to chance or to the forbearance of a possible foe ought to be patent to the most casual mind. It is true that the garrison of the colony has been doubled and that the British Squadron in these waters has largely increased, and if the fleets and garrisons of other Powers had remained stationary there might be little cause for anxiety. But unfortunately this has not been the case; on the contrary, the naval and military forces of France and Russia have been greatly increased and the political barometer has concurrently become more sensitive than ever. The improvement in artillery, too, has altered the conditions materially and rendered the colony in its present condition more difficult to successfully defend. To make it secure from outside attack it will be necessary to further largely reinforce the garrison and to increase the naval forces, say by a powerful guardship and a number of torpedo boats. It is, let us hope, in contemplation of such reinforcements that the Government intend to ask for large votes for the defence of the coaling stations. As the retention of these stations is simply vital to the existence of England's maritime supremacy and the maintenance of her vast foreign trade, there will be few dissentient voices when the vote is asked for, especially when, as is evident, the custodian of the public purse intends to recommend it. Whether the desired extension of the frontiers of Hongkong has been agreed to, and this increase is partly necessitated thereby, we are unable to say. We should like to think so, but knowing, by long and bitter experience, the talent of the Chinese for procrastinating, we fear to indulge in such a hope. What we may look forward to safely, however, is the early augmentation of the garrison and the construction of the defences so much needed on the southern side of the island.

At Singapore on the 29th December the Hon. LIM BOON KENG, M.B.C.M., member of the Legislative Council, was married to Miss Wong Duang Ging, eldest daughter of Mr. Wong Nai Siong, of Foochow. The bride is described as a charming young lady of excellent Chinese family, who has had moreover the great advantage of having been educated for some time in America and is familiar with the English language, ways of thought and social observances.

COMMERCIAL MORALITY AND MANUFACTURING ENTER- PRISE IN JAPAN.

In the *Nineteenth Century*, Mr. ROBERT YOUNG, the editor of the *Kobe Chronicle*, has an interesting article on Commercial Morality in Japan. Mr. YOUNG's conclusion is that there is practically no morality in Japanese trade, a conclusion which is the more remarkable when we remember the pro-Japanese leanings of the writer in matters political and social. It is, he says, a common belief among those who have investigated the conditions of trade in Japan, that commercial morality there stands almost on the lowest plane possible to a civilised people; and that, with few exceptions, even those Japanese who prove estimable and high-minded in every other matter are not to be trusted when business transactions are in question. Instances are given to prove the want of common morality amongst Japanese traders, and very telling instances they are, and yet it seems to us the colour is laid on a little too thickly. For instance, Mr. YOUNG says, "Already Japanese Consuls have reported that the country's foreign trade is being seriously injured by merchants who send abroad matches that will not strike, rice that is not up to sample, and stuffs whose only merit is cheapness." To take one of the articles here mentioned, namely, matches, it is self-evident that Japanese matches could not possibly have secured a practical monopoly of the markets of the Far East, as they have done, if they would not strike. In the early days of the match-making industry in Japan the goods turned out were of inferior quality, but with increased experience of the manufacture and of the requirements of the market there has been a steady improvement and now the matches represent very good value for the price at which they are sold. The besetting sin of the Japanese trader is that he will not fulfil a contract if when it falls due it shows a loss to him, but he has sufficient commercial instinct to know that if he wants to establish and maintain a connection in any markets for the goods he has to sell he cannot expect orders to be repeated if the articles he supplies are worthless. The tale about Japanese matches not striking is a survival from the early days of the industry and as applied to the present day is pure fiction. That the tale should have retained its hold on the mind of Mr. YOUNG, who, we may suppose, has regularly lit his pipe with Japanese matches for years past, is somewhat surprising. And the excellence combined with cheapness that we find in their matches will doubtless be found in other goods that the Japanese are trying to establish a trade in, provided that the conditions are favourable to the manufacture. Mr. YOUNG, however, has not much faith in the ability of the Japanese to undersell European manufacturers and gives an instance to show that the reputation of Japanese goods for cheapness has been secured by false pretences. The remarkably low prices marked on Japanese manufactured goods shown at the Kyoto exhibition were commented on in the commercial journals of every manufacturing country in the world, and especially in England, as exemplifying the competition with which British manufactures would have shortly to contend. It seems, however, that goods marked "sold" could not be purchased from the manufacturers at the same prices. The explanation offered was that had the goods in the exhibition been marked at their actual retail price they would have been refused by the committee

which insisted on the manufactured articles being all marked at low figures; consequently, it was necessary for exhibitors to place a fictitious price on their goods, and then to send agents on the first day the exhibition opened and purchase them back, so as to avoid loss. We can well believe that, for it is quite in accordance with the trickery characteristic of Japanese commercial methods, but it does not dispose of the probability of Japanese manufactures in various lines competing with European goods. The Japanese have proved their capacity in the match-making industry and the cotton spinning industry and the same capacity will be shown in all other lines for the production of which the local conditions are favourable.

FOOT-BINDING IN HONGKONG.

While fully endorsing the wisdom of Baron Nogi's announcement that due respect must be shown towards the customs and conventions of the Chinese in Formosa, the *Japan Mail* cannot but regret that His Excellency should have designated foot-binding as one of the things deserving toleration. Our contemporary condemns the practice as "nothing less than criminal 'mutilation'" and goes on to say:—"We are fully sensible that in criticizing Baron Nogi's programme, we expose ourselves to the retort that foot-binding is not interdicted in the British colony of Hongkong. The point is not to be gainsaid. Possibly some palliation for Great Britain's disgraceful tolerance of such a savage custom may be found in the fact that, when the island of Victoria (*sic*) came into her possession fifty-five years ago, the foot-binding abuse had not attracted special attention. Things were suffered to drift on in their old channels without much inquiry, the general policy of the Hongkong Administration being practically identical with the general policy of Japan in Formosa, as enunciated by Governor-General Nogi; namely, a policy of non-interference with custom or convention that did not directly hinder the preservation of good order and morality. But whatever value attached to that excuse in past years, there can be no question that the Hongkong Government ought long ago to have extended to all female children born under the shadow of the British flag the protection against brutal maiming and mutilation that every subject is entitled to expect from those set in authority. The foreign philanthropists that recently started, and are now fomenting, in China such a praiseworthy agitation against the foot-binding barbarity, were guilty of a singular oversight when they addressed a petition to the Empress of China alone. They ought also to have petitioned the Empress-Queen of Great Britain to extend similar relief to the Chinese female children living in Her Majesty's dominions. Meanwhile two wrongs do not make a right. Japan finds an opportunity to set an example to Great Britain, and we sincerely hope that she may yet be persuaded to avail herself of the occasion."

While concurring in our contemporary's condemnation of foot-binding, there are considerations, we think, which might reasonably deter the Japanese Government in Formosa or the British Government in Hongkong from forcibly interfering with the practice. Where the Chinese are brought into close contact with Europeans the practice of foot-binding has a natural tendency to die out of itself, and in Formosa, where the population will in all probability become within a com-

paratively short period practically Japanese, foot-binding will, it may be predicted, disappear without the use of prohibitory measures. Neither in Formosa nor in Hongkong is the practice anything like general, being followed only by the well-to-do classes, and not universally even by them. Now there are comparatively few wealthy people who bring up their families in Hongkong, and those who do would naturally remove them to the mainland if their social customs were unduly interfered with. Moreover, admitting that foot-binding is a cruel and reprehensible practice, the question still remains whether the cruelty is such as to call for governmental interference, especially when, as in this colony, such interference would be attended by so little practical effect. In India suttee and immolation under the car of Juggernaut have been stopped by Governmental action, but foot-binding cannot be placed in the same category with those fearful practices which involved the direct sacrifice of life. It is comparatively rarely that foot-binding is followed by permanent injury to the general health, and so far from the women of China themselves regarding it as a cruel custom, every woman whose feet have not been bound regrets the fact and in many cases artificial contrivances are adopted to give the appearance of small feet. That this should be the feeling prevailing on the subject is of course much to be regretted, and efforts to educate the Chinese to a more correct view merit every encouragement, but to make foot-binding a penal offence, either in this colony or in Formosa, would, we fear, be calculated to do more harm than good.

THE VOLUNTEER CORPS.

Energetic efforts are being made to raise at least another machine gun company for the Volunteer Corps. At a meeting of the officers of the Corps which was recently held it was decided to take measures for that purpose and a personal appeal in that behalf which the Commandant, Sir J. W. CARRINGTON, has made to the managers of the various banks and heads of the leading mercantile companies and firms has, we understand, been very favourably received. The regulations of the Corps provide for an establishment of 217 of all ranks; at present there are 149 of all ranks borne on the rolls. The deficiency exists chiefly in the machine gun unit, the artillery numbering about a hundred. It remains for the young men in the hongs and banks and Civil Service to make up the number required for the additional machine gun company. It ought to be a point of honour with all able bodied young men to join the Volunteers and make themselves efficient, thus increasing the military resources of the empire and bringing them up to a level with those of less fortunate countries where conscription prevails. But in addition to the call of duty volunteering holds out inducements in the way of healthy exercise and physical training that ought to attract recruits. While on the other hand the demands it makes upon the time of the members are not arduous for those who are content to put in the minimum number of drills. Thirty drills a year for a recruit and twenty for an efficient, with the option of attending in the afternoon or in the evening after dinner, according to the members' own convenience, cannot be considered excessive, though it is of course desired that as many more drills as possible should be held. The Corps has been exceptionally fortunate in securing Sir John CARRINGTON

Commandant, and the enthusiasm with which he has entered on the duties of the office ought to prove infectious and not only tend to swell the ranks of the Corps by bringing in recruits, but also to encourage the members to aim at the highest standard of efficiency. The news from Bombay is melancholy reading. Half the population is reported to have fled, mills are standing idle, and a general panic prevails. What all this means those who passed through the plague year of 1894 in Hongkong will be able to realise. When the disease was first discovered at Bombay the outbreak appeared to be of a very mild character and so continued for some time, and we cannot but think that the authorities are to a large extent responsible, by hesitating to take effective measures to deal with it while it was in a manageable stage, for its having attained the head it has. The case of Bombay ought to prove a warning to all other places where the disease may make its appearance, and ought to induce them to deal with it in a drastic manner from the very beginning. As recently as the 12th December we find the *Times of India* writing as follows:—"To assert the necessity for an immediate recourse to segregation—at all events as a preliminary measure—would seem very much like preaching to the converted. The Municipal Executive are in principle with us, for weeks ago they formally notified their intention to at once have recourse to measures for the segregation of sufferers from plague. When they withdrew the notification, or so far modified it that it ceased to have any practical efficacy, they did so, not through any doubt, we must suppose, of the value of that method, but because of the clamour of an ignorant though highly sensitive caste opinion." The results of this criminal weakness are now unfortunately apparent.

THE SHARE MARKET AND KESWICK'S ACT.

Some anxiety seems to have existed in financial circles with regard to the December settlement in the local share market. Happily the anxiety has not been justified by the result, the settlement having passed off satisfactorily and a firmer tone now prevailing in the market. That the "boom" which characterised the share market during a portion of the past year did not culminate in a crash may, we think, be ascribed to Keswick's Share Act, and the colony has reason to thank the originator of that law. The conditions in 1896 were favourable to the production of a crisis had the market been entirely at the mercy of speculators. In the earlier part of the year money was plentiful and cheap, business was brisk, and almost all sound stocks showed a substantial rise in value. Entire confidence prevailed and it was considered safe to buy almost anything. Under these circumstances there would inevitably have been a large amount of gambling on time had there been no restrictions on that form of speculation, and with the stringency in the money market that made itself felt in the latter part of the year speculators without means who had been buying for the rise would have found themselves unable to complete their bargains, with the result that shares would have been thrown on the market in large numbers, values would have been depressed, and bona fide investors would have suffered a serious depreciation of their property. Keswick's Share Act has now been in operation for over five years and there has been time to test its value. The Act provides that contracts

for the sale of shares shall be void unless the shares sold are identified by their numbers in the register of the Company, or, where there is no register, by the names in which the shares stand, the intention being to prevent sales for forward delivery by persons who at the time of the making of the contracts do not possess the shares purporting to be sold. It has been found possible, within certain limits, to circumvent the Act, fulfilling its letter but violating its spirit, by borrowing numbers, and a considerable time business has consequently sprung up within the last year or two; but this business, though considerable in itself, is as nothing compared to what it would have been had no legal restrictions whatever existed, for it is not everyone that can make arrangements for borrowing numbers and selling identified shares of which he is not the owner, nor can the traffickers whose names command the greatest confidence borrow numbers to an unlimited extent. The Act, therefore, notwithstanding the loopholes in it, exercises a potent influence in preventing the manipulation of the market in the interests of speculators and it is to it that the colony is indebted for the fact that it is at present sailing in untroubled financial waters.

THE PAHANG MINING REGULATIONS.

At the recent meeting of the Punjom Mining Company the Chairman referred to the mining regulations of Pahang as imposing a number of onerous and arbitrary conditions which are not calculated to encourage European mining enterprise, and he expressed a fear that in consequence of these regulations the Company was likely to suffer a large curtailment of the original Punjom concession. This fear we hope may prove unfounded or at least exaggerated. It is important to the State of Pahang that its mineral wealth should be judiciously developed, and there can be no wish on the part of the Government to discourage bona fide European enterprise in that direction. When the State came under British protection measures were naturally taken to prevent the mineral lands passing into the hands of companies that had no fixed intention of working them but simply wished to obtain concessions as a speculation, thinking there might be a possible chance of selling them at a profit. A good deal of land was already in the hands of companies of this description, under prospecting concessions, and as the terms of these concessions expired the Government has declined to renew them, and rightly so, when not a penny had been spent on development. But the Government, we take it, will assume a different attitude to those Companies, like Punjom and Raub, that have honestly and intelligently opened up mines on their concessions and sunk a substantial amount of capital in the work. Companies of this kind ought to be dealt with in a very liberal spirit by the Government when their prospecting concessions fall in. It is, of course, not to be expected that they should be allowed to retain indefinitely large tracts of country without working it—and it is only a very small portion of its concession that the Punjom Company has as yet been able to deal with—but it would be only fair that, having made good use of part of their concessions, they should be allowed an extension of time with respect to the remainder should they so desire. A liberal reading of the mining regulations should be adopted in cases of that kind.

PROPOSED TAEI COINAGE.

A statement recently appeared in the *N. C. Daily News* to the effect that SHENG SUAN-HUAI, Director-General of the Great Western Railway, has secured Imperial authorisation for his New Imperial Bank to coin one-tael pieces. The news if true is to be regretted. The dollar is the recognised coin of the Far East and it would be an advantage to China if she adopted it as her standard. Hitherto the tael has represented simply a certain weight of silver and there have been no coins of that denomination or value. Both the Canton and Wuchang mints have adopted a dollar coinage issuing dollars and subsidiary coins representing fractional parts of dollars, and it was naturally assumed that gradually a uniform currency would make its way throughout the empire. The introduction of "tael dollars," as they are called, would destroy that uniformity and introduce financial confusion which it might tax future statesmen severely to set right. If the tael is preferred to the dollar then the coinage of the latter and of its fractional tokens at the existing mints should be discontinued and the tael be adopted as the standard, so that all the mints might work on a common basis; but seeing the greater convenience of the dollar it is to be hoped that SHENG may be advised to abandon his proposed tael coinage and adopt the more familiar coin.

THE CAREW CASE.

ARREST OF MISS JACOBS.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Shanghai, 12th January, 8.47 a.m.

Mr. Lowder has charged Miss Jacobs with the murder of Mr. Carew and with writing the Annie Luke letters.

Mr. Scidmore is watching the case on behalf of the accused.

The arrest aroused sympathy.

Miss Jacobs was remanded until to-day.

The trial of Mrs. Carew has been adjourned until to-morrow.

[Miss Jacobs was a nurse in the service of Mr. and Mrs. Carew.]

DEATH OF THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER OF JAPAN.

We much regret to announce the death of the Empress-Dowager of Japan. The sad intelligence was conveyed in the following telegram from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Japanese Consul:

"I greatly regret to announce the death of Her Majesty the Empress-Dowager, which took place at 6 p.m. on the 11th inst., from inflammation of the lungs."

THE CHIEF JUSTICE AND THE COURT OFFICIALS.

AN INTERESTING CEREMONY.

On the 4th January Sir John Worrell Carington, the Chief Justice, was waited upon by Mr. Kyshe, Registrar, the Deputy Registrars, clerks, and various other officers of the Supreme Court and heartily congratulated upon the honour recently bestowed upon him by Her Majesty the Queen. The ceremony took place in his Lordship's chambers at the Court, and Mr. Kyshe acted as spokesman for the deputation.

In addressing his Lordship Mr. Kyshe said—My Lord, on behalf of myself and staff I beg to congratulate you upon the honour of knighthood just conferred upon you. It is an honour very much sought after by many, but which few receive, and having regard to the fact that it has been conferred upon you at such an early stage of your career in this colony, the honour is one which ought to be all the more gratifying to you as well as gratifying to ourselves, knowing that you have earned

it entirely through your own merit. Your career is one which you no doubt feel proud of, and which ought to be an encouragement to others, including ourselves. One of your standing and capacity should not necessarily be satisfied with the present honour. I have no doubt from what I know of you, that your ability will carry you further, and though it seems as if the day when Chief Justices became Governors has gone by, still I have no doubt that other honours are still in store for you, apart from the fact that Colonial Chief Justices are now, or about to be, made Privy Councillors, as a position which at least you may hereafter look forward to. We trust that you and your family may long live to enjoy the honours conferred upon you, and we all wish you and your family prosperity.

The Chief Justice, in reply, thanked Mr. Kyshe and his staff for their unexpected congratulation, which had taken him entirely by surprise. The fact that the honour had been conferred upon him at such an early period of his tenure of the office of Chief Justice was a proof of the importance that was attached to the colony by the Imperial Government. He thanked Mr. Kyshe and the staff for their kind congratulations and expression of satisfaction at the honour which Her Majesty had been pleased to bestow upon him. It had given him great pleasure also to see how kindly the matter had been regarded by the inhabitants of the colony generally. It was a pleasure to him to know what a capable body of officers there was in the Registry here, and he gladly acknowledged the efficient assistance which he had always received from Mr. Kyshe and the staff. He concluded by thanking the deputation and wishing them happiness and prosperity in the new year.

Mr. Kyshe then called for three cheers for Sir John Worrell Carrington, and the deputation afterwards withdrew.

BRITISH KOWLOON COLLEGE.

On the 7th January afternoon a public meeting of Kowloon residents was held at the Kowloon Hotel to receive a report from the Committee of the British Kowloon College and to take action thereon. Mr. H. Holmes presided over a fairly good attendance.

The Chairman said he regretted that very unexpected circumstances had compelled the Committee to call the meeting. At the first meeting a Committee was elected to serve for three years and they had continued their services up to the present time. The school continued in a successful manner until a short time ago. Unfortunately a typhoon came and the building called the British Kowloon College became unfit for use and if sold it would only fetch from \$25 to \$50. Kowloon was now growing and the necessity for a school was very great. The Government had assisted the school in a great measure with a grant of \$50 a month for a lady teacher and the Dock Company had also granted an allowance of \$250 a year. Unfortunately the Dock Company had for some reason withdrawn the allowance. The school had no claim on the Company and it was exceedingly generous of them to make the allowance so long as they did. That allowance having stopped and there being no building and no funds the Committee were in a great difficulty.

Mr. H. S. Cooke, the Secretary, read the report and said the school was prosperously conducted until the typhoon swept the building away. The results of the examination were extremely satisfactory and the school came out second to none in the colony. Under the present circumstances no one could be surprised that Mr. Skertchly should have resigned his position at the school. The opinion of the Committee was that the only course open for them was to appeal to the Government to provide a Government School in Kowloon. There would be no justice whatever in the Kowloon residents paying taxes for educational purposes and having no educational facilities. It was not right to expect that Kowloon children should be sent to Hong Kong. In Kowloon there were practically no Chinese or Eurasians; the population was practically European and the Committee could fairly ask the Government to provide a Go-

vernment school which should be reserved for Europeans. It could not be alleged that the Committee would be raising a barrier against Chinese or Eurasians, because such people would enter into their disabilities only by going across from Hongkong. The Government had all along shown themselves very anxious to avoid having a Government school in Kowloon; they seemed to wish to prevent a repetition of the fiasco that the Queen's College had been in Hongkong. In the last extremity the Committee applied to the Government to make a Government school of the college and the final decision, which was dated 12th December, was that the Government were willing to grant a site of the value of \$5,000 if the residents were prepared to build a school. He would like to know why the Kowloon residents should be expected to build a school.

A discussion ensued and it was resolved, on the proposition of Captain Brown, seconded by Mr. Jackson—"That the Committee be instructed to draw up a petition asking for a Government school for European children to be established in Kowloon; that such petition be sent for signature to all residents on this side, and its presentation to the Governor and further action thereon be left to the Committee's discretion."

Mrs. Hayward proposed, and Mr. Wilson seconded, the following resolution, which was carried—"That in the meantime the Government be requested to lend a teacher from Queen's College to continue the school in temporary premises that may be available."

The Committee was added to and the meeting ended.

THE DEATH OF A GERMAN SEAMAN.

On Tuesday afternoon Hon. Commander Hastings held an inquest on the body of the German seaman named Walz, of H.M.S. Arcona, who was found at the Happy Valley on the 10th inst. apparently in a drunken condition. The jurors were Messrs. F. W. Muat, J. M. Nieira, and P. M. A. de Graca.

Surgeon-General McLean, in charge of the Naval Hospital, said he and Dr. Stedman had made a *post mortem* examination of the deceased, who died in the hospital on the morning of the 11th inst. When admitted on the previous night witness suspected that the man was in a state of drunken coma, but in witness's opinion it was more likely to have been caused by a blow from a blunt instrument, such as a heavy stick. It was possible that a man's fist caused the injury, but this was not probable. The wound was close to the top of the head, a little on the left side.

Dr. Stedman corroborated and thought the blow on the head was not a heavy one.

A German who is a gilder and lives at Wild Dell deposed to the deceased and some companions from the ship visiting him on the night of the 10th inst. They squabbled and near the Happy Valley deceased was struck with a cane on the head as well as on the body.

The inquest was adjourned.

THE PHILIPPINE REBELLION.

REBEL DEFEAT.

We are indebted to Senor Navarro, Spanish Consul, for a copy of the following telegram received on Saturday from the Governor-General of the Philippines:

"The rebels of Bataan have been routed. Our troops took an entrenched village and killed 61.

"After a hard fight the insurgents under the command of Llanera were also routed at Sibul, Balacan, and the troops took the encampment, arms, and ammunition, and killed 58 (counted) and many others whose number it was impossible to ascertain on account of the thickness of the woods."

THE TRIAL AND EXECUTION OF DR. RIZAL.

A court martial was held at Manila at half-past eight o'clock on the morning of the 26th

December for the trial of "the well-known agitator José Rizal Mercado y Alonso, a native of Calamba, in the province of Laguna, and by profession a doctor."

The *Comercio* gives the following brief report of the proceedings:

The Teniente Auditor Señor Alcocer formulated the accusation in brilliant terms. Having referred to the bad antecedents of Rizal, one of the principal, if not the principal, figures in the insurrectionary movement, he examined the relation in which the accused stood towards the movement, and said that the causes of the rebellion being well known, it was just that he should pay the penalty of the law. He (the prosecutor) therefore, in view of all the facts, accused the prisoner of rebellious acts and illicit associations, the latter being the medium for the former, and having regard to the aggravated circumstances of the crimes, he asked for the infliction of the penalty provided by the Penal Code for illicit associations with civil responsibility and for sentence of death for the crime of rebellion. On the termination of his brilliant oration the orator was justly felicitated by the whole concourse.

The Lieutenant of Artillery Señor Tavel de Andrade then proceeded with the defence of the accused, placing it in the most favourable light possible.

Before the Court closed Rizal made a long speech exonerating himself, showing that his name had been falsely used and that letters and poetry which he had not written had been attributed to him. He stigmatized the Philippine population that had risen in arms against Spain as savage, the victim of the deceit and abuse of fools, and asserted that there were no respectable or representative persons (as he considered) who sympathised with their ideas.

The Council then considered its finding in private.

The large hall in which the Council was held was completely filled.

On the 29th December there was published in the general orders an order directing that the execution of Rizal should take place at 7 a.m. on the 30th and making provision for the arrangements on the occasion.

The *Comercio* of the 30th December gives the following account of the execution:

At seven o'clock this morning, the hour appointed in the order we published yesterday, the sentence of death passed by the court-martial on José Rizal for rebellious acts and illicit associations was duly executed on the Campo de Bagumbayan. A picquet of the 10th Infantry Regiment constituted the firing party. The square was formed by the 7th and 8th battalions of the Cazadores and the volunteers. The criminal arrived accompanied by the Rev. Fathers Estanislao March and José Vilaplana, of the Jesuit order, who at his request had attended him in the chapel since yesterday. Exhorted by the priests Rizal declared his repentance of his errors and wrote and signed the following abjuration:

"I declare myself a Catholic and in this religion in which I was born and educated I wish to live and die. I retract with all my heart whatever in my words, writings, printed works or conduct has been contrary to my duty as a son of the Catholic Church. I believe and profess what she teaches and I submit to what she commands. I abominate Masonry as an enemy of the Church and as a society prohibited by the Church. The Diocesan Prelate, as the superior ecclesiastical authority, may publish this my spontaneous manifestation to repair the scandal which my acts may have caused, and for which may God and man pardon me. Manila, 29th December, 1896. JOSE RIZAL, El Jefe del piquete, JUAN DML FRESCO, El Ayudante de plaza ELOY MAURE."

After having confessed Rizal received the holy communion at the first mass celebrated in the chapel of the royal fortress of Santiago at three o'clock this morning. At five o'clock in the presence of the Chaplain of the Forces and of the officers of the Guard, in the chapel he contracted matrimony with Miss Joaquin Bracken. At half-past six he left the chapel, guarded by a picquet of the Artillery Regiment and accompanied by the priests and was conducted to the place of execution where

large crowd had at or punishment which the law exacts from those who in return for the benefits which the country confers upon them betray her, organising infamous associations whose aim is crime, and bringing perturbation, strife, and desolation to the possession of the Spanish Crown.

A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT ON THE SITUATION.

Macauyan, near Manila, 18th December.

I have hastened back from a journey in the surrounding country, whither I went to see for myself the actual position of affairs, in order that I might supplement my telegraphic despatches of the 12th and 16th, which briefly stated the position in the Philippine Archipelago. It is necessary to see everything for oneself in this country which for downright lying on every side beats even China, the home of natural mendacity. But in this respect I think that as an "Old China Hand" I must award the palm to the far eastern colony of haughty Spain. It is impossible to believe anything one hears or reads here where the gagging of the press and the iron hand of the Censor control public opinion and stifle truth on every side. People who know something worth telling steadfastly keep their mouths shut, while those who have little knowledge of what is going on embellish it so and twist it according to their sympathies with one side or the other that it is exceedingly puzzling even for old residents to know what to believe. The local newspapers, as I have indicated, are under the most severe censorship and only publish what the Spanish staff officers give out, which is exceedingly meagre and conveys anything but a correct impression of the actual state of affairs. No one will find fault with the Spanish authorities on this score when the seriousness of the situation and the numbers and determination of their enemies are taken into account. When we have such a high military authority as Lord Wolseley condemning war correspondents as "modern curses of armies" in his famous "Soldier's Pocket-Book" we cannot think too hardly of the severe but not unreasonable restrictions which Captain-General Blanco, late Commander-in-Chief of the forces in the Philippines and Governor-General of the Archipelago, imposed upon communications to the press at home and abroad. His successor, General Polavieja, I am glad to say holds more liberal views upon that score and as long as I confine myself to past operations and disclose nothing that would help the enemy, I have found him so far quite willing to allow me a pretty free hand. I have obtained my permit giving me freedom of the military lines, but have not until now thought it necessary to go to any great distance with the small military expeditions that are now getting to work in the next province of Bulacan which has within the past fortnight gone over to the rebels. The first great task of the new Commander-in-Chief will be to clear Cavite province and the suburbs of Manila extending by the S. and W. around the bay of the enemy. But as I have already indicated by telegraphic despatches, this cannot be attempted until the Spanish force now numbering 20,000 men is largely reinforced. In the course of an interview which I had with General Blanco last week, he informed me that further reinforcements amounting to 25,000 fresh troops are being mobilized and embarked at Barcelona and Cadiz. Several transports are on their way out already, so that within a few weeks we may expect to see the royal troops assume aggressive tactics. General Blanco's successor in the office of Capitan General, the Marques Polavieja, is a strong man and of more energetic temperament than his predecessor. Moreover, he is *persona grata* with the Church dignitaries who are a power in the land, equal if not superior to the Governor-General, and the entire official hierarchy. Indeed it is not easy to over estimate the enormous influence which the four orders—the Augustinians, Recoletos, Dominicans, and Franciscans wield in the Philippines where the Church to-day what it was in England before the Reformation. The entire population—that is the natives with the exception of the unsubdued savages in remote parts—and the fierce Mahomedans of Mindanao have for over three centuries been

which makes the recent fury directed against the friars all the more inexplicable. It must, however, be remembered, that in many places the *padre* is the sole upholder and outpost of the Spanish dominion which he personifies often exercising authority beyond what would be assumed by Government officials, if there were any on the spot. It is admitted as beyond question that General Blanco was superseded in his office mainly owing to the hostility of the religious orders to his regime. General Polavieja is practically on his trial now and opinion is not quite decided as to how he will rule; but most impressions agree that he is likely to prove a man of decision and one free from the fatal vacillation of his predecessor, who is freely blamed for allowing the rebellion to make such headway and for a lowing some of its chief supporters to escape to places of safety beyond the sea, notably one of the notorious Roxas brothers, the other of whom is in prison here awaiting his final trial by court-martial with his fate already pretty well decided, the civil preliminary proceedings having resulted in his unequivocal condemnation on the capital charge of high treason and rebellion. General Polaviejo has certainly lost no time in showing the people that he is earnest and we have no reason to complain of his want of thoroughness. General Blanco always seemed to shrink from sentencing a man to death and withheld his signature from the execution order till the last moment, for which merciful tendency he has been freely censured by all Spaniards here. The present Governor-General is apparently troubled by no such qualms, for in four days there have been no less than 38 executions here in Manila, Cavite, and Paranaque (all within a radius of 8 miles) besides four ordinary criminals who were garrotted here on Tuesday last. It seems open to question whether these wholesale battues are likely to impress the natives very much or incline them to a more loyal and contented frame of mind. The Philippinos, like all Asiatics, have a supreme contempt of death and all meet their fate with stoical indifference. Indeed the Spanish soldiers forming the shooting squads seem to be far less indifferent to the painful scenes and become nervous when called out to form the firing parties. On Tuesday one of the soldiers fainted during the bloody scene, which I must say was a horrid one, the business having been badly bungled, one of the victims having to receive five separate shots, after the first volley into his back and head, to give him his quietus. They are shot from behind in the most fashionable drive of the city facing the sea, and the executions are attended with a great show of military solemnity and pomp. As a great many honoured well known rebels including the leaders Roxas, Rizal, Luna, all men of wealth and influence, though all either half-castes or full-blooded Indians as the natives are erroneously styled by the Spaniards and foreigners, are still lying in prison awaiting the courts-martial and are certain to be convicted, we may anticipate the enactment of many more of these bloody scenes that have dyed the sands of the Lunetta crimson so many times within the past couple of months. As I have informed the *Herald* readers by telegraph the rebellion has spread now into several other provinces, but they have been very easily cleared out of the next province of Bulacan, whither I have just returned in time to close this letter with a brief mention of General Rios operations around Macauyan, a village 15 kilometers to the northward. Between 3,000 and 4,000 rebels were in possession of a series of quarries a few hundred yards to the south of Macauyan, the railway passing through which they menaced. General Rios took 1,500 men made up from the 7th and 73rd (Native) regiments, the 4th and 6th Cazadores (riflemen), 3 batteries of field guns and half a troop of cavalry. The total number of his force did not exceed 1,500 men in all. He divided them into two divisions, one under Col. Arteaga, an officer who has won considerable distinction during the recent operations around Manila. The others the General led in person. Col. Arteaga's force was pushed forward in advance to a village called Marilao, about 5 kilometers to the north-east of Macauyan on which it was to advance at an equal speed with General Rios' division which commenced to advance shortly after dawn on the 18th from the village of Polo, another little village about the same distance south-east of Macauyan. The country along the line of march was exceedingly difficult being cut up on all sides into paddy patches each a few hundred yards in area with banks a couple of feet high all round to keep in the water when the young rice is sprouting. The heat of the day made the operations brief as they were exceedingly fatiguing, but the men behaved exceedingly well and advanced steadily over the difficult ground in line formation until a position was reached on the east of the village of Macauyan for two field pieces to command the rival stronghold. A few shells were thrown into a clump of trees which acted as a screen to the quarry and a few more into the quarry itself, but only elicited a most feeble reply from the occupants who were ill provided with weapons, except for an ancient and very curious sort of falconette or native made cannon which they call a *laneta*, a sort of exaggerated Chinese gongal. This was mounted in an embrasure in the stone breast-work formed by the quarried ridges. But it was never fired. After the first couple of shells fell amongst them the rebels broke and fled to the hills about 5 miles to the westward, many women and children being seen amongst them. The Spanish infantry fired at the fugitives a few rounds and the enemy left a few dead in their tracks, but failed to show the least signs of fight in the face of the immeasurably superior force of the Spaniards. The troops dashed forward and without resistance occupied the abandoned position which could have been held by a very few men for a long time if the game was considered worth the candle. But the rebels evidently thought it was not, and in the absence of all attempt to use the Spanish cavalry in the pursuit the fleet limbed natives escaped to the hills. Some bodies were found in the quarry and a few amongst the trees, nearly all with the familiar *sanguinta paecta* mark on the arm to prove that the bodies were sworn insurgents. But the whole affair was a very trivial one and unworthy of the expenditure of more space to describe it. The headman of the rebels was a native named Francisco, a man of the neighbourhood who had been in a Government office like so many of his fellow-rebels, the upper ranks of whom consist largely of schoolmasters, doctors, lawyers, musicians, and men who held official positions up to quite recently. Roxas is a millionaire, Rizal the chief leader is a doctor of medicine as well as of law, an author of distinction and a graduate of a German university. He speaks English, German, and French, in addition to Spanish and his native Tagalo tongue. Luna is an artist who a few years ago won a gold medal for a very clever picture at the Paris Exhibition. I must as an act of simple justice to the Spanish troops say before closing that my impression derived from personal observation in Manila, Macauyan, Cavite, and other places in the neighbourhood, is directly opposed to what Mr. Davidson and one or two others have written. Their demeanour towards the people is most kindly, and strict discipline is preserved by the officers. Indeed if anything the troops are too friendly and fraternize with the natives who constantly endeavour to tempt the loyalty of the young lads who largely compose the Spanish force. But for the honour of the white race, I am glad not to be able to record a single success on the part of the insidious islanders to win over a Spanish soldier to their side. At Macauyan a little damage was done to the houses of the people of the town, possible but a few instances of violence which General Rios feared might be carried off by the retreating rebels had to be burnt as a matter of military precaution. The soldiers paid for everything they took in the way of food and after the firing ceased the people came out of their homes and showed no fear of the soldiers which would hardly be the case had the stories of excess told against the Spanish been well founded. This is the more remarkable when we remember that practically every native in rebel, open or undivided, but all women and men alike, regard the Government as a mere name to denote the dominion of Spain, and for the past twenty years have been

embracing eight millions inhabitants through the power of the Church and barely two thousand soldiers.—HENRY O'SHEA in *China Gazette*.

INTERESTING INTERVIEW.

A representative of the *Straits Times* had recently an interview with Mr. Mencarini, a Spanish gentleman who has just arrived in Singapore after a residence of about eighteen months in the Philippines. During that period, Mr. Mencarini made a special study of the state of affairs, and he was able to impart to the interviewer much interesting information, not only as to the inception of the rebellion and the strength of the rebels, but also as to the present position and prospects of the campaign, and the latest plans of the Spanish military commander. Mr. Mencarini is employed on the Indoor Staff of the Chinese Maritime Customs. He is at present enjoying two years' leave of absence, and is touring through the Malay States, the islands of the Malay Archipelago, and the French possessions, in order to make himself acquainted with the different political and commercial systems as adopted by the European Colonial Governments. The knowledge he thus acquires he intends placing at the service of the Spanish Government. Mr. Mencarini is not altogether a stranger to Singapore. He was here nineteen years ago as a scholar in the Christian Brothers' School, his father having been at the time, and for eleven years in all, Spanish Consul in Singapore, afterwards going to Hongkong. Mr. Mencarini's brother-in-law is chief of the personnel at the Spanish Admiralty.

I arrived in Manila, Mr. Mencarini commenced early in 1895, on a tour through the Philippines. I stayed till the end of November last.

What was the state of affairs when you arrived?—Everything seemed very quiet. Throughout the provinces there seemed to be no sign of discontent. The outbreak, in fact, was a surprise to everybody. Nobody had any idea that there was such a thing fermenting. I should like to say at the outset that, throughout this rebellion, there has not been found a single Spaniard or half-caste Spaniard engaged. They are all natives and Chinese half-castes.

The rebellion broke out in August last?—Yes, on the 19th. It was discovered in this way: a workman employed at the printing office of the *Diario de Manila* newspaper suddenly diminished his payments to his mistress by one dollar a week. The woman, with native jealousy, believed him to be unfaithful, and quarrelled with him. He thereupon confessed that the dollar was subscribed to masonic lodges, who were preparing a conspiracy to overthrow Spanish rule, to murder all the Spaniards, and appropriate their wives. The woman pledged her lover to go at once to Father Gil, of Tondo, one of the suburbs of Manila, and reveal the plot. The man went. Father Gil heard the story and communicated what he had heard to the Government. Immediate steps were taken. The office of the *Diario de Manila* was searched, and a number of masonic proclamations and rules were found in the possession of the workmen. The Spanish staff had absolutely no knowledge of the existence of these incriminating documents in the office.

Leaving this point for a moment, what is the constitution of these masonic clubs in the Philippines? There is a great deal of misconception on this subject. The unfortunate part of masonry there is that the conspirators availed themselves of the order in order to further their evil designs. A man is first entered as a mason, and is afterwards passed on to become a member of the *kalipunan* or club. Only natives have joined these clubs which are to be found all over the Philippines. The clubs, in most cases, keep the same masonic signs, but the motto is entirely different. On this is a representation of a bearded and bleeding bearded fellow's hand and a dagger held by the other hand. The object of these *kalipunans* is to drive the Spaniards out of the Archipelago. What is the state of recent date? No. The Government did not look upon them as dangerous, but merely as part of the masonic organization, which is not significantly organised. They are to be brought from the supreme court in a regular, regular manner so that they cannot be put in any difficulty.

What are used are, of course, entirely fictitious. Accordingly, it has been found impossible up to the present to ascertain the name and whereabouts of the prime mover in the insurrection. However the seizure of the papers in the newspaper office gave the authorities several important clues, and numerous arrests were made.

Three or four days after the seizure of the documents, continued Mr. Mencarini, the rebels attacked the Guardia Civil post at Calocan, a suburb of Manila. Two days later, Manila was declared in a state of siege, and very soon the whole of the province of Cavite was ablaze. Of twenty-one towns and villages in this province, nineteen were and still are in the possession of the insurgents.

What is the area of Cavite?—It is about three hundred square miles, and very mountainous.

And the rebellion is mostly confined to this province?—Yes. The rebels attacked a few places in the provinces of Batangas and Laguna, but they have been driven back into Cavite. At Calamba they were repulsed by General Aguirre and forced to retreat from Laguna, and General Jaramillo forced them from Batangas in the celebrated battle of Nasughi, in which three hundred insurgents were killed.

What is now being done?—General Aguirre is about to march on Indan, the headquarters of the rebels in the central province, and General Jaramillo upon Silang. The object is to take these two places, and to force the insurgents seawards. The great thing is to cut off the rebels' retreat to the mountain fastnesses and the jungle, and to hem them in between the Spanish army whose headquarters are at Cavite, and the two divisions in their rear.

You are, of course, aware that there has been some comment on what has appeared to be the inactivity of the Spanish military authorities?—Yes, General Blanco, the officer who has just been recalled, has been blamed for not taking active steps somewhat sooner, but he was really not in a position to do so. He found himself at first with only about fifteen hundred Spanish troops, and he was unable to rely on the native troops. In addition to that, the rainy season only just being concluded, the roads were impracticable, and it was impossible to carry on any military operations. The Spanish Government certainly did not approve of General Blanco's conduct, and he was also the victim, to some extent, of public sentiment at home. Personally, I do not think that General Blanco could have done better than he did.

How are the rebels situated for arms and ammunition?—Very badly. From what I have been able to gather from Chinese prisoners who have escaped, they only seem to have about seven hundred firearms among the whole of them. About three hundred of these they have taken from the civil guard stations, and the remainder they have taken from the convents, and from the planters on the sugar and coffee estates. The firearms from the convents are of a very ancient pattern, and were used by the friars on the occasions of saints' days and similar occasions. The story that the rebels are well armed is perfectly untrue. Among all the rifles captured not one of them has been a Mauser. Recently, the rebels have resorted to numerous expedients to make up their deficiencies. They have, for instance, appropriated the bells of the churches, and have made a primitive sort of cannon out of them. Their ammunition they also took from the guard posts which were well supplied, but they must be getting very short by this time.

The insurgents do not appear to have made any great preparations for the struggle?—No. The whole thing was premature. They were as surprised at the discovery of the plot as the Government were at its existence. They were certainly not ready. A proof of this is the fact that, when the rebellion was discovered in Manila, most of the Chinese half-castes joined the Spanish volunteers and cheered for Spain in front of General Blanco's palace, believing themselves caught in a trap.

How many Spanish troops are there now in the Philippines?—There are at present some twenty thousand, and ten thousand more are on their way. The statement that there are forty-five thousand troops in the Philippines is absurd.

And the strength of the rebels?—Nobody knows. They are estimated to number from fifteen to thirty thousand. I do not believe that the mass of them are at all anxious to fight, but they have been forced into the rebellion by their chiefs. These chiefs are the educated men among the half-castes. They are school-masters, doctors, and pretty law-yeoman who owe all that they possess to Spain. Many of them have gone to Europe, they have come back with half-formed ideas of socialistic ideas of western civilisation, and they have become discontented.

Do you think the rebellion will last much longer?—I believe it will be all over by the end of January. The rebels are a contemptible lot of people, they never face the troops, they have no organisation, and they have no means to carry on the war any further.

What is your view as to the grievances of the natives?—They have no enmity against the Spanish Government, their grievance is against the religious orders. But they are extremely ignorant, and cannot distinguish between the two. Up till now the friars have had complete control of the Philippines. Lately the masonic lodges have declared against them, and there has been a general feeling of antagonism among the people towards them.

How do you account for this?—It is principally due, I think, to the question of the land, and to the wealth of the friars. When Spain discovered the Philippines, the friars divided amongst themselves the best portions of the land. This land still belongs to them, and the natives have to pay canon, a fee to the priests for the land they occupy or cultivate. The best situated and most fertile of the land is held by the orders. The two most powerful orders are the Dominican and the Augustinian, and the three other orders in the islands are the Franciscans, the Recoletos, and the Jesuits. In some cases they pay their rent in kind. There are no natives among the orders. There are very few secular priests in the Philippines, and among these are a few natives who have been involved.

Certainly I should say, continued Mr. Mencarini, that the friars have done nothing but good to the kind of men who are now the leaders of the rebellion. They have educated them in law, in medicine, and in European knowledge generally. But whatever may be the grievances of the natives, no patriotic Spaniard can go with them. The friars have done an immense amount of good; they are Spaniards, and they are entitled to all the protection that Spain can give them. Until lately, the priest was the only foreigner that was to be met with in the interior, and he was consulted in every civil and religious matter by the natives. Lately, however, the priests have lost much of their old influence owing to the new and discontented opinions that were being spread abroad. The orders are reputed to be enormously wealthy, and this has no doubt aroused the envy and cupidity of the leaders.

Has the rebellion resulted in very serious damage to property?—No, very little, comparatively speaking. What there is of cultivated land in the province of Cavite is mostly devoted to rice, and that was harvested mostly before the rebellion assumed serious proportions. There is very little cultivation carried on in the island. Personally, I think it would be a great boon for the Philippines if Chinese immigration were encouraged.

Mr. Mencarini proceeded to refer to the difficulty between Spain and the United States. I believe, he said, that we shall have war with the States in March if the new President recognises the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents. The Spanish Government has already informed the United States that such a resolution would be taken as soon as possible. We have been irritated by the United States for such a lengthened period that there is now a warlike feeling throughout Spain. There would be no difficulty in finding a common purpose. Our local loyalty will be easily covered recently a grand appeal has been made if America had not backed the rebels with money and supplies, the rebels would not have over long ago taken the fortifications in the Philippines. In that case,

pitched battle they will never come face to face, but shelter themselves in ambush. But Spanish resources are by no means exhausted, as some people seem to think. We have at present in Cuba over 250,000 men, we have in Spain 150,000 men all armed, and we will shortly have 30,000 in the Philippines. Then we have a reserve of a million men who could be called up in three months. We have seven battleships of the first class, and twenty other good ships, besides other smaller craft, and in six months our battleships will number eleven. Spain has nothing to lose by a war with the United States. If we were to lose Cuba, we should be only losing a possession which has been of no use to us for a long time.

In conclusion, Mr. Mencarini observed that it was a mistake to suppose that the offer of autonomy to the Cubans on condition of submission was a climbing down process due to the action of the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate. The offer was made nearly a year ago by Señor Canovas, the Spanish Premier, as soon as he came into power.

THE DRAMATIC MARRIAGE OF DR. RIZAL.

HIS FIANCÉE A HONGKONG LADY.

The marriage of Dr. Rizal an hour and a half before he was publicly shot at Manila is one of the most dramatic events yet recorded in the history of the Philippine rebellion. According to the Spanish papers Dr. Rizal contracted matrimony with Miss Josefina Bracken at five o'clock in the morning in the presence of the chaplain of the forces and of the officers of the guard, and at half-past six he was led to the place of execution. The heroine of this extraordinary drama, which reads more like fiction than truth, is the daughter of an English soldier, and was born in this colony. We have gleaned one or two particulars about the career of this interesting lady, who will, it is expected, shortly arrive in Hongkong. When she was quite young her father either died or went to England and an engineer named Taufer, who was for many years in charge of the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's fire engines on the Praya, adopted her as his daughter. Taufer was well known in the colony and during the disastrous typhoon of 1874 he and his brother, who was also connected with the Insurance Company, rescued many people from drowning, for which meritorious services each was awarded the Humane Society's medal. Taufer, although not holding a very high position, amassed a considerable sum of money and some years ago bought several houses in Mosque Junction, but within the last few years he disposed of them. Towards 1892 his eyesight began to fail, and fearing blindness he went to Manila to consult Dr. Rizal, taking with him his adopted daughter, Miss Josefina Bracken. By this time Dr. Rizal had been deported to Dapitan, but Taufer was determined to see the doctor and he and Miss Bracken journeyed to the place of exile and had an opportunity of consulting the doctor in the fortress. Taufer and his adopted daughter remained at Dapitan for two years, and then Taufer returned to Hongkong, where he is still living, but he is quite blind. Miss Bracken, who had during her two years' stay in Dapitan become greatly attached to Dr. Rizal, went back to the fortress and rented a house. She paid frequent visits to Dr. Rizal and it is supposed that they were just about to get married when the doctor was taken to Manila, then to Spain, and then back to Manila again. Whether Miss Bracken followed her betrothed backwards and forwards is not known, but her subsequent marriage under such strikingly tragic circumstances affords a strong foundation for a powerful story.

The writer of "By the Way" in the *Japan Gazette*, referring to the Carew case, says:—A curious story is told of the drawing for jurors. It may not be generally known that when the jury lists are revised the numbers corresponding to the names on the list are placed in a bag which is only opened when a jury is required. Mr. Carew's name was the first drawn, and Mr. J. T. Boag's was second. It has been erroneously stated in some prints that Mr. J. T. Boag's name was drawn; Mr. Dickinson's name was also among those drawn.

DREADFUL FATALITY AT SHANGHAI.

A LADY BURNT TO DEATH.

At Shanghai, on the 1st January, a lady, Mrs. Brumfield, whose husband is in the employ of Mr. G. McBain, was burnt to death.

A gentleman who was one of those who answered the alarm favoured the *N. C. Daily News* with the following record of what he personally saw of the dreadful tragedy:—

Having had a small private tiffin party in the private dining-room of the Club, we were seated round the fire chatting when, about 3, or a quarter past, some of the Club "boys" ran into the room and called out, "Fire! Fire! Dining-room." We at once rushed into the large dining-room and then saw a fire on the verandah of Club Chambers opposite. Some one was seen in flames on the verandah. Looking up I saw a human being leaning on the verandah rail destitute of all clothing except stockings over whom natives were throwing buckets of water. Immediately a rush was made downstairs and Dr. Grant, who was with our party, at once gave orders for oil and wool and hurried to the rooms where the accident had taken place. Up to this moment no one knew who it was nor to what nationality or sex the person belonged. Our party reached the room to find that Captain Tisdall had given the alarm of fire, and that boys and coolies had broken into the room and put the fire out, and had then seen the woman on the verandah and at once threw water over her. By the time our party reached the room Mrs. Brumfield had fallen prostrate and almost senseless on the verandah floor. Not more than three or four minutes had elapsed between the fire being seen from the Club and her being carried in by Messrs. Box, Swan, and Edkins, and placed before the fire, where Dr. Grant at once began treating her with oil and wool. The poor woman was almost if not quite unconscious, and said "Ice! Ice!" gaspingly. Brandy was given her and after a time she was asked if she felt less pain, when she replied "I feel very uncomfortable." Her husband had now appeared on the scene. The ambulance was sent for and she was taken to the Hospital and there attended to by Dr. Lalaca, who had been sent for, arrived.

Mrs. Brumfield had thrown off her dress and corset and taken an afternoon sleep. She had then got up to dress and thrown on a light wrapper with a long train and this train had evidently caught fire as she passed the fireplace, where a large fire was burning. She apparently lost her head when she found herself on fire and rushed to the door screaming, but her left hand being in splints she was unable to open the door with one hand, and then rushed to the window, which she broke, and got through on to the verandah. Captain Tisdall had heard screams and then smelt fire and had given the alarm to the servants who opened the door. The natives, as far as their knowledge went, showed great presence of mind.

The Club was almost empty at the time and the Club boys gave the alarm to those in the private dining-room, who were those who first got on the scene after the native servants, and by them everything that could be done was done for the victim under the prompt and cool and efficient direction of Dr. Grant.

Our informant adds that there was no sign in the room of anyone having been drinking there, and that when Dr. Grant asked for brandy to give Mrs. Brumfield, her husband, whom his wife had recognised, had to get a fresh bottle and open it. We learn that just before her death at the hospital Mrs. Brumfield was conscious, and said to her husband: "Will you have a vein opened in my arm before you bury me, to make sure that I'm dead, won't you?"

The sad accident at Shanghai on New Year's Day, by which a European woman was burnt to death, seems to have caused considerable excitement in consequence of certain peculiar circumstances attending it and the fact that the body was interred without an inquest being held.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 4th January in an editorial note on the subject says:—Here is an unfortunate woman burnt to death in broad daylight in a room with a locked door

and when she is taken to the hospital it is found that one of her arms has been severely broken. There are all sorts of reports as to her recent life, and as to the concluding fatality, and it is obvious that the facts as far as possible should be elicited in a public enquiry, but the Supreme Court allows the matter to be hushed up, as things too often are here, and though it is cold weather, and there is no need for such indecent haste, the poor victim is buried within twenty-four hours of her death, no inquest being held, although the attention of the Court was drawn to the public feeling existing on the subject. It is not too late, however, for the Coroner to hold an inquest, and we trust that the Court will reconsider its determination, which is really a public scandal. It is certain that the matter will not be allowed to rest where it now is, for it must be remembered that while the Order in Council gives the Supreme Court here all the powers and rights appertaining to the office of Coroner in England, it also imposes the duties.

In its issue of the 5th January our contemporary says:—The Supreme Court has, as will be learnt with general satisfaction, reconsidered its decision, and an inquest is to be held to-day on the remains of the late Mrs. Brumfield. That it was not held before the funeral was, as we thought, an oversight, the facts of the case not being appreciated when it was decided to sanction the burying of the remains. The absence of the late Assistant Judge and Coroner and the non-arrival of his successor have naturally caused some difficulty in the working at the British Consulate-General; and no one could imagine that there was any desire to hush up the matter, the impression being rather that the accident was a simple one, not complicated by suspicious circumstances.

The body was accordingly exhumed and an inquest held, the proceedings on the first day consisting simply of the taking of formal evidence of identification.

THE INQUEST.

The inquest on the body of Emma Cecilia Brumfield, which was opened at Shanghai on the 5th January, was continued on the 6th and concluded on the 7th.

The circumstances under which the deceased was discovered with her clothes burning have been already published. Several witnesses were called who had seen her shortly before the accident, and from their evidence it appeared she was rational, though excited.

Dr. Lalaca, the deceased's medical attendant, said:—I received a note on the morning of New Year's Day from Mrs. Brumfield asking me to attend her. (Note produced and handed to Jury). I went round a little after nine o'clock to No. 10, Club Chambers, where she lived. I knocked at the door and she opened it in a little while; I could not say whether it was locked or simply fastened. I asked her what was the matter and she showed me that her wrist was hurt. She said it was very painful. I asked her how she got it, and she said it was an accident. I said "Accident, what sort of accident?" and she said "It is no use hiding things, I will tell you all. I got it whilst struggling with my husband." Then she described to me how the accident happened. Shall I tell exactly what she said?

The Jury—I think we should hear. Witness continued.—She said she was out to dinner the night previous with her husband, and I think she said they had some sort of disagreement at the time. They both came back home late and Mr. Brumfield said he would like to go and see some friends of his, that being New Year's Eve. She had received anonymous letters, which had given her an idea that he sometimes went round to see some of the women in the neighbourhood of the Water Tower. She said he was very fond of her in former days and had never done that before, but of late he had been doing that, by that I mean going out at night. She thought she had better take a ricksha and go to the place mentioned in the anonymous letter. She went round to this house and went to a bed-room of a certain woman referred to in the anonymous letter. She said "I saw my husband sitting on a sofa with this woman." As soon as it came in this woman got up and left the room, and

once," she said. "If I had only got to this woman I would have killed her." She said Willie (her husband) prevented her going after the woman. "I struggled very hard to get away from him, but he held me so tightly by the left hand (the wrist that was injured), that I could not succeed in getting at her. There you see the result of it." Then she said that later on she came back home. I asked her if she was struck or hurt anywhere else, and she said that in struggling she stumbled against the sofa, and struck her face against the soft part of it—not the wood. She told me her husband had pulled her on to the sofa and made her sit down to prevent her running after the other woman. Then she made mention that he wanted to take her at the time home to Club Chambers. "He held me by the waist and he wanted me to go down the stairs with him, but I struggled and would not go," she said. After that she told me that she got back home by herself. I told her she made a great mistake in going to any of those houses. This woman is also a patient of mine whom I had attended some time before Mr. and Mrs. Brumfield had been my patients. She was then suffering from cold and bronchitis and I wanted to pacify Mrs. Brumfield by telling her that he had possibly gone there to see how she was. Mrs. Brumfield then said, "I love Willie so dearly, and he has been such a good husband to me that I cannot bear to think he has ever gone near another woman." She said he was very good to her before, but went out at nights sometimes now, I think she knew in a way what was the reason of Mr. Brumfield going out, and she also understood there was a certain amount of reason for his doing so. (Witness explained what he meant by this.) She also mentioned about her having gone to some people and having complained about his doing so. She asked me to advise her, as she had not many friends in Shanghai. She mentioned the names of one or two people she wanted to go to, and I told her that New Year's Day was hardly the time to go to other people with one's own troubles. She said it was unfortunate it was New Year's Day, as she was expecting some children and some ladies who were coming over. She said she would take my advice and not go to anyone else just then. All this time I was examining her wrist and attending to her. I examined the parts very carefully, but from the accounts she had given me as to how the accident had taken place I very easily found out that it was merely a sprain caused in the way she had described. There were no external bruises at all and I told her I saw no mark on the face. She said she knew there was nothing wrong with the face, and it was the wrist which had been painful. She moved her wrist and fingers about. I said if she would let me put on a small splint she would be all right quicker, by giving perfect rest. (Witness showed that the splint when applied simply stiffened the wrist, and left the fingers free.) I advised her to keep her hand somewhat elevated, and used an ordinary silk antimacassar to put her arm in a sling. She said she felt comfortable with the splint, but if the pain came back what should she do, and I said out of my emergency bag I would give her something to ease the pain if it came back. I promised to see her again in the evening, and said I would probably take the splint off in three or four days. When I was dressing her wrist the right-hand window was open at the time and I told her to close it as she might catch cold, which she did. I took the boy down with me to my carriage and gave him a small dose of nepenthe—purified tinctorure of opium—for him to give Mrs. Brumfield. Before I did so I told her that if the pain was not very bad she need only take half the dose, but if very bad the whole dose. I put the drops in a glass, and she was to add the water. I left my house some time between half-past two and three, telling my servant I would be back between five and six. When I returned home I found this note (produced) which was left for me by Dr. Grant. I went straight to the Hospital and when I got up to the ward they told me Mrs. Brumfield was dead. I viewed the body and of course saw exactly the state she was in. The upper portion of the body was burnt pretty deeply, and I was perfectly satisfied from the complete information

I had received from Dr. Grant that burning was really the primary cause of the death. The Sisters told me that Dr. Blanc who was in the Hospital had also seen her, and had given her a quarter of a grain of morphine to ease her pain, knowing that it was a hopeless case. That relieved her agony. Dr. Reid who happened to be there at about 5 o'clock was asked to see her, just when she was dying. I have since spoken to Dr. Blanc and Dr. Reid for their kindness in attending her and they corroborated what the Sisters said as to what was done for the deceased. I gave the certificate of death, one copy for the Registrar and one for the sexton. I spoke to Mr. Nazer at the Hospital and said I would like to have a look at the room. I went there the following morning and saw the room pretty nearly in the state described. I found the glass of medicine I had left for her was in her wardrobe, and she had not touched it. I have known her to be in the habit of locking the door when she was dressing, to prevent the boy rushing in. I remember I have had to wait on one or two occasions for a few minutes when she was dressing. She was very fond of wearing light materials, and I often told her to wear thicker clothing and have less fire in the room.

By Mr. Ellis—I have attended Mrs. Brumfield for about six months, in fact since her return to Shanghai. As I said in my evidence I believe Mrs. Brumfield knew the reason her husband went out of an evening, which was as I have explained. The splint on her hand kept the wrist stiff, but allowed her fingers to be free, and would not have prevented her opening the window or tearing her clothing off. I think that when dressing her clothing caught fire and that she then sat on the bed, perhaps with the intention of covering herself up with the clothes, but that, losing her presence of mind, she rushed about and set fire to the table-cloth and the curtains hanging by the window which she opened, and got on to the verandah. Then the flames suffocated her and she sank down.

By the Coroner—I do not know whether it was her custom to take the key out of the door when she locked it, but I believe the boy had another key.

By the Jury—I believe the letter I have put in was written by Mrs. Brumfield. She was not, however, very ill when I saw her, but she seemed upset. When I left it was about ten o'clock.

Mr. William Brumfield said—On New Year's Eve we dined at my sister's, Mrs. Scott's. After dinner an altercation arose between my wife and myself and although we played cards nearly all the evening we neither of us spoke to one another. We left there about half-past twelve. We stopped at a friend's on the way home, but my wife would not come inside. After a little while I joined her, and saw her safely to the door of Club Chambers. I commenced to walk away as soon as I paid the ricksha men, and as I was going away she said to me, "You had better give me the key." I then intended to go to a friend's house close by, and, looking up the staircase seeing it was dark, I came to the conclusion that he was not in. I then got into a ricksha and went to 53, Kiangse Road. The mistress of the house let me in and a girl came out of the parlour. We went upstairs and sat on her couch. In a little while a boy came and said something to us, but we could not understand him. Just as the boy was going away my wife came in by the door behind us. We both jumped up off the couch. The girl that was sitting by me on the couch rushed to the door in the opposite direction. My wife rushed after her. I caught her by the hand, and held her back. She said, "If you don't let me go I'll scream," and commenced to scream at the same time, finding I would not let her go. She struggled from me and fell down near the door. I picked her up, and, after speaking to her quietly, she sat down on the couch with me. I said to her, "You shouldn't have come down here," and I further said, "Come along, come home with me." With that I put my arm round her waist and came along quite quietly. I walked to the top of the back staircase. She would have come along with me had we not met two girls coming along the verandah. She turned round and called

one by name. The other girl began to reprove me, and I walked back into the room again. "My wife then walked back into the room after me and seemed to me very much exasperated, evidently from what this other girl had been speaking to her about. I do not know what." I said, "Are you coming home or not?" She did not answer me but went towards the other door. I took my hat and went out of the other door and down the back staircase. After about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour I came back to see if my wife had gone home. I was told yes. She remained there and did not awake until about mid-day the next day. I think it was when my boy brought me a chit. The envelope had my name on it, and was directed to me in her handwriting, but the letter inside was a letter written by my mother to her saying she would be up to dinner and would she send a carriage. My boy went away and I sent another boy after a carriage. He came back and said he could not get one. Shortly after this my boy came again and he said would I come home as my wife wanted me. I said to him I would come immediately. I called him back and asked him if he had \$2 to get a carriage. He said "Yes," and he went off and got one. As soon as the brougham arrived I went down and got into it. I drove up the Bund and saw a large crowd standing outside of Club Chambers. I got out of the brougham and saw Mr. McLeish, of Mactavish and Lehmann, walk hurriedly past. I ran up to him and asked him what was the matter. He said "Run up quickly; something's wrong." I ran upstairs and saw the place filled with smoke. My door was wide open and three men leaning over my wife, who I could see had been badly burned. They were attending to her and putting oil over her. I afterwards learned that one was Doctor Grant. They wrapped a number of blankets round her and took her to the ambulance and another gentleman and I followed with the brougham. She was taken upstairs at the Hospital and placed on the bed, where she shortly afterwards died.

By the Coroner—In struggling from me she rushed towards the door, and I fancy I must have hurt her wrist then.

Mr. William Brumfield was re-called on the 7th.

By the Coroner—

In your evidence yesterday you stated that on returning from the dinner you saw Mrs. Brumfield safely to the door of Club Chambers and as she was going she said to you, "You had better give me the key." Did you give it to her?—Yes. The door had been locked by us as we went out. There was also a key in the possession of the boy.

When you went to 53, Kiangse Road, you say that after your wife came you went down the back staircase and you were absent 10 minutes or a quarter of an hour, can you state where you were?—I went into a house opposite. The last time I was in my own room was about half-past five on the afternoon of the 31st. The last time I had any communication with my servants was about that time.

By Mr. Ellis—

When did you first know of the fact that your wife had hurt her wrist?—The first intimation I got was by my boy when he came down to 53 in the morning the second time. When Mrs. Brumfield left 53, Kiangse Road, it must have been between 2 and 3 in the morning. I did not go home that morning because it was so late, and I thought if I had gone home after the row it would be only causing a greater disturbance and I thought if I went home in the morning things would have quieted down a little, and I would have been able to pacify her.

What do you think was the reason of Mrs. Brumfield always locking the door?—The great reason is that it was a semi-public building, and that there was a risk of people calling for some of the other residents opening the door by mistake. Mrs. Brumfield was in the habit of wearing loose gowns partly on account of the state of her health. The mantelpiece in the room was a very narrow marble one and a person leaning against it would be very close to the fire. There was a small looking glass over the mantelpiece at which Mrs. Brumfield was in the habit of

dressing-table preference to the dressing-table which stood by the wall near the Club. She did this because the people living in the Club could see her when at the dressing-table. A night or two before the accident I was sitting in the arm-chair by the fire when she walked by me spoke to her, and she turned quickly round. The gown she had on had a short train which got right under the grate. I caught it and drew it away and said, "Cis, you must be careful, or you will be getting on fire."

By the Jury.—There were three lamps in the room rarely used. They were not near the fireplace.

On the conclusion of the evidence the Coroner, in summing-up, said—As you have given such diligent attention to the evidence, all the lines of which appear to me to converge to one point, it will be only necessary in summing-up to call your attention to a few of its salient features. In a catastrophe of this kind it appears to me there are three ways in which it could have occurred. It may have been owing to the act of another person, either wilful or accidental; it may have been due to the act of the sufferer herself; or it may have been due to accident. The first question will doubtless hardly have suggested itself to your minds at all, as the evidence has shown that, at the time of the accident, the unfortunate lady was entirely alone. The question of self-destruction may possibly have presented itself to your minds, and in coming to a decision you will have to array the evidence on both sides. On the one hand you may reasonably assume that the lady being unhappy owing to domestic troubles, may have been tempted to take her life, and you had also evidence to show that she was in an unusual state of excitement. Against that you must take the fact that to seek death by such a horrible, painful, and at least uncertain mode was a very unlikely thing to do. There now only remains the question of pure accident. The evidence has shown there was a large fire burning in the room; that the deceased was wearing a garment of a very light description, which had a train; that the mantelpiece was a very narrow one; that the fire was burning brightly, and that there was no guard or fender of any description. Cases have occurred, frequently occur, where clothing has taken fire in such a manner, and it will be for you to consider whether such was the case in the present instance or not. Now, as to the suspicious circumstances—if they may be called suspicious—attending this case. There was a locked door; now it is for you to say whether the locking of that door is sufficiently accounted for, or whether you think any one to blame for the door being locked. But in doing that you must not forget that during the morning the door was open, and evidently people had free access to the room before the lady locked it, when evidently about to dress. And then the question of the arm; it will be for you to say whether the evidence produced by Dr. Lalaca sufficiently accounts for that. I do not think there is anything more I can say, and the Court will now be cleared for you to consider your verdict.

The Jury, after deliberating in private for about a quarter of an hour, returned the following verdict—Having heard the evidence produced at the inquest, we are of opinion that the body we have viewed is that of Emma Cecilia Brumfield. We find that the deceased met with her death through being accidentally burnt; that on the day of her death she was in a state of nervous excitement, the result of her husband's conduct towards her, and, though there is no evidence to connect the state of her mind and the injury which she had sustained to her wrist with the accident, there is no doubt that an injured wrist in splints would interfere with any attempt at self-assistance.

The Coroner.—Gentlemen of the Jury, it only remains for me to thank you for the conscientious and painstaking way in which you have discharged your duties.

This concluded the proceedings.

A telegram has been received by the Japanese Government from Mr. Kamiya, Japanese Consul at San Francisco, announcing that Kobe and Yokohama have been declared to be infected ports where smallpox is prevalent.

ARMED ROBBERY IN WINGLOK STREET.

Another armed robbery, which was much on a par with previous armed robberies in the colony, was enacted at a silk goods shop at 31, Winglok Street, on Friday night. The thieves got clear away with about \$90 in money and two rolls of silk worth \$60. The utter helplessness of the men in the shop and the crass idiocy they displayed in connection with the crime almost make one say that they deserved to lose what they did and that it was a pity they did not lose more. There were three robbers altogether and at least two of them had revolvers, while the third had a fighting iron and, according to some accounts, he also carried a revolver. The inmates of the shop numbered six. Of course six defenceless men can do nothing when faced by three men armed to the teeth, but the six men, even when there was no danger, stupidly refrained from raising an alarm until long after the robbers had departed, neither did they, although they were in a position to do so, think it worth their while to see whether their assailants turned to the right or to the left on leaving the shop with their booty. The chance of the police effecting the capture of the robbers is, under the circumstances, very remote and if there is a capture it will be due, not to any assistance given by the victims themselves, but almost solely to the working of the detective machinery of the Police force. The affair took place about 7.15 p.m. One man entered the shop and asked to see some goods. Some parleying took place, during which two more men entered and, as a preliminary precaution, quietly closed the door behind them. They then revealed their real character. The six inmates were grouped together and commanded not to move or raise an alarm. One of the robbers fired a shot into the floor with the object, possibly, of enforcing strict decorum, although it is more likely the weapon went off by accident, as an accomplished thief never, unless absolutely compelled, fires a revolver; it makes too much noise. But in this instance nobody outside seems to have thought that the report was not an everyday occurrence and the thieves quickly performed the object of their mission undisturbed. They demanded the key of the safe, but as the master was away the key could not be obtained. They seemed disappointed, but they made no fuss and proceeded to ransack the drawers in the counter. They secured \$90 in money and, as an extra solace, two rolls of silk worth \$60. This was sufficient for the day and the trio then departed as quietly as if they had been transacting some everyday business. When in the street they flourished the rolls of silk over their heads and an Indian watchman and several people who were in the neighbourhood thought the men were skylarking. The inmates in the shop were so scared that it was a long time before they thought it might be as well to tell the police; but by this time the robbers were far away and nobody knows who they are, or which way they went, or where they are likely to be found.

THE CITY HALL.

The annual meeting of shareholders in and subscribers to the City Hall was held in the library on Saturday. Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving presided and there were also present Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple, H. N. Mody, B. Layton, and N. A. Sieba (Committee), G. Sharp, and H. L. Dennis (Secretary).

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN.—Gentlemen, as is usual on these occasions, I will ask you to take the annual report, which has been printed and circulated, as read. The year to the 30th June last was not, I regret to say, a very satisfactory one as far as the earning powers of the institution were concerned; a serious outbreak of bubonic plague at the beginning of 1896 and the fear of being quarantined kept away several travelling companies that would otherwise have visited the colony. Should we have no recurrence of the plague this year we may fairly hope that our receipts will be better, as applications have already been made by travelling companies for the use of the Theatre on forward dates, and the Amateur Dramatic

Club have also announced another performance. The ballroom suite, I am glad to say, has a considerable demand, and there is every prospect of a fair revenue being derived from this source during this winter. The Committee have not applied to the public for subscriptions during the last year, as they consider that the institution is now, with the assistance of the Government grant, fairly self-supporting and with the amount they have on deposit they hope they have a sufficient reserve fund to tide them over a bad season, and to enable them to pay any unforeseen expenses that are likely to be incurred. I do not propose to repeat what appears in the report as to the state of the building. As will be seen, unexpected outlay has had to be made in respect of the Theatre pillars and also upon the ceilings of the two halls. With regard to the Theatre pillars, I think we are to be congratulated on the fact that the bad workmanship was discovered before any accident happened. As to the suggestion which appeared recently in a local newspaper that the building should be purchased from the shareholders and be placed under the control of the Government or of some body representative of the public, I do not think such a course should be pursued unless a very binding guarantee be given that the building shall continue to be devoted mainly to the purposes for which it is now used. I may here mention that the cost of the building was approximately \$100,000 at a time when the value of the dollar was more than double what it now is. As to the Museum, it would doubtless be much more satisfactory if a scientifically arranged and conducted museum could be maintained, but it must be remembered that the space at the disposal of the Committee is very limited, the rooms themselves are dark and unsuitable, and the funds available are very small. Considering that we started with empty rooms, and that the collection is almost wholly made up of articles that have either been lent or presented to the Museum, I think you will agree with me that the latter affords accommodation for many specimens of considerable interest, and the fact that over one hundred thousand visitors were admitted during the twelve months ending the 30th June, 1896, shows that the public interest is not diminishing. The fact that the complaint now is that the building is too small for the purposes for which it was originally started is, I consider, some evidence that it has fairly fulfilled the objects of its promoters and that although the management is sometimes criticised, upon the whole it has been satisfactory. Before moving the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions or give any further information.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. G. SHARP seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN.—That concludes the business of the meeting.

The following is the report submitted.—

COMMITTEE.

There have been no changes in the Committee since the last annual meeting, and the present members are the Honourable J. J. Bell-Irving (Chairman), and Messrs. H. L. Dalrymple, H. N. Mody, B. Layton, and N. A. Sieba.

THE STATE OF THE BUILDING.

The present condition of the building is satisfactory, but very considerable sums of money have had to be spent upon repairs since December, 1895, in addition to paying for ordinary repairs and those necessitated by White ants. The ceilings of the St. George and St. Andrew's Halls, which for many years have required constant patching, and which suffered somewhat in the typhoon of July last, owing to leakage through the roof, were taken down, the advice of Messrs. Palmer and Turner taken, and reconstructed in August, and advantage was taken of the reconstruction to make better provision for the ventilation of the rooms.

The brick pillars supporting the gallery on the east side of the Theatre having shown signs of giving way were opened and found to be in a dangerous condition. Upon the plaster being taken off it was seen that the brickwork had originally been built with an adhesive mortar, signs of crushing it was considered unavoidable to

haven't the pillars taken down and rebuilt. Upon further investigation it was found that the pillars on the west side of the gallery also required to be partly reconstructed, and this was carried into effect, and the Committee are assured that the gallery is now in a perfectly safe condition.

The typhoon on the 20th July last broke some glass and did a certain amount of damage to the roof and to the plaster work, but fortunately no serious loss resulted.

During the twelve months from 1st July, 1895, to the 30th June, 1896, the Theatre was utilised by the Amateur Dramatic Club, the Philharmonic Society, the Rifle Brigade, the Smoking Concert Club, and the Centurion Amateurs, as well as by the New Willard Opera Company, and a few other travelling artistes. The threatened outbreak of plague in the early part of 1896 and the dread of quarantine restrictions unfortunately had a bad effect on the receipts from this source of income. As in past years, the use of the St. Andrew's Hall and the Theatre was granted for educational and charitable purposes free of charge.

The gross receipts from the Theatre and the St. Andrew's Hall between 1st July, 1895, and 30th June, 1896, amounted only to \$2,831.27 as against \$4,520.72 received during the preceding twelve months, while the receipts from the ball room suite showed a slight improvement, being \$1,236.71 as against \$1,001.03 in 1895-1896.

THE LIBRARY.

A valuable copy of De Guignes' Chinese dictionary has been presented by Dr. Chalmers, and during the twelve months ending the 30th June twenty-six new books printed in Hong-Kong and forwarded by the Government, together with a copy of Dr. Doberck's observations and researches for 1895 and a few other works, were added to the shelves. The number of readers during the year was 3,725 compared with 3,260 in 1895-1896. As in former years, the proprietors of the local newspapers have to be thanked for supplying their journals free for the use of those frequenting the Library.

THE MUSEUM.

Two slow lemurs were presented by the Hon. Mr. Belilio; a fine specimen of a Hongkong python was given by Inspector Duncan, and two cobras captured at the Peak were added to the collection, as well as several birds shot by local sportsmen. The following have to be thanked for their contributions:—Hon. E. R. Belilio, Captain G. C. Anderson, Miss Leiria, Mrs. Vernon, Messrs. Botelho, Brunner, Bryant, Cattaneo, Chan Cheuk Sin, Drury, Duncan, Lau A Yau, Lau Joy Fong, Leung Tit Shau, Mok Ting Kam, G. H. Potts, D. R. Sassoon, J. M. A. Silva, Wing Cheoung, and Zockowski. The visitors to the Museum during the year numbered 109,027, of whom 8,029 were non-Chinese.

ACCOUNTS.

The balance in the hands of the Honorary Treasurer on the 30th June, 1896, was \$1,647.14 as appears from the following account of receipts and disbursements. As mentioned above, considerable expense has been incurred in repairs, and this will reduce the credit balance, but there is a sum of \$11,576.25 on fixed deposit in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to the credit of the City Hall upon which the Committee could draw should it become necessary.

To balance in hands of the Hon. Treasurer on 30th June, 1895, as shown in last report	\$2,795.89
To receipts from Theatre, St. Andrew's Hall, Ball Room, &c. &c.	5,132.09
To rent of Chamber of Commerce	600.00
To Government Grant for 1896	1,200.00
To interest on current account in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to 30th June, 1896	50.38
	59,828.36
By wages for 12 months	43,348.00
By installation of the electric light	1,800.00
By repairs and alterations	795.71
By gas	790.88
By electric light	236.52
By magazine and office expenses	430.81
By insurance premium	701.00
By Government fire brigade	79.00
By balance	1,647.14
	59,828.36

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK AND CO., LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in Dakin, Cruickshank and Co., Limited, was held at the Hongkong Hotel on the 11th January, at noon. Mr. A. Bain presided, and there were also present Messrs. R. A. Gubbay (Director), W. Hay (Manager), F. B. H. Bowley (Legal Adviser), F. Maitland (Liquidator), A. G. Stokes, A. Coutts, M. S. Sassoon, S. S. Benjamin, F. P. Rozario, and Fung A Chat.

Mr. HAY read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, you have heard the notice calling the meeting and before these resolutions are put I should like to say a few words. The one thing I should like to know, seeing we have a legal adviser here, is what are the duties of the liquidator? Are we as directors debarred from all future responsibilities?

Mr. BOWLEY—With the appointment of a liquidator the duties of the directors cease.

The CHAIRMAN—There is nothing in our articles of association in regard to that and of course if you say that we as directors have no responsibilities after the confirmation takes place—I understand you to mean that?

Mr. BOWLEY—That is so, excepting so far as the Company in general meeting or the liquidator may sanction the continuance of the directors.

The CHAIRMAN—The Company was wound up at the last meeting and really I want to know what the liquidator has got to do. You have appointed him and are going to give him \$500 and I want to know what he has got to do for it. Before the last meeting we had to appoint a gentleman—I do not think he is here now—we had to appoint a gentleman to go over the books, and I understand by the meaning of word "liquidator" that he has to really and truly liquidate the whole business, that is, he has to go thoroughly through the books. We appointed a gentleman and he went through the books and confirmed the statement of our last accounts and really and truly I would like to know what we are going to pay this \$500 for. I as a shareholder strongly object to it. Of course I could understand it if there was any difficulty in the firm, that is, in the winding up of the concern, as then I should be only too pleased to vote for the sum. It is not in regard to the gentleman who has been appointed—I have nothing to say against him; but this is a matter of dollars and I want to get as many dollars as I can out of the concern. In the first place I want to know what the liquidator has got to do. We have a manager here and the thing is a good going concern. What has the liquidator got to do? He has only got to sign cheques; we as directors have been doing that all along. Of course it is for the shareholders to say whether this \$500 is to be spent. I think it is foolish to spend it and I protest against it strongly.

Mr. STOKES—It was proposed at the last meeting and carried that he should get the money. I think that was the time to make those remarks. At the previous meeting you ought to have objected to the \$500 being paid; now we have agreed to pay the money.

The CHAIRMAN—The thing is not confirmed. We are met here to confirm this resolution.

Mr. STOKES—For the winding up. He was appointed auditor, or liquidator.

The CHAIRMAN—That is what I want to know. We had the auditor and appointed him as the gentleman to go over the books and he has given a true statement of the books. What is he going to do now? Tell me that. Can anyone tell me that?

Mr. STOKES—He brought the proposal to us for the winding up and it was accepted.

The CHAIRMAN—Maskee. That was proposed at the time and I certainly protest against the \$500 being spent. There is another thing, gentlemen, that I will put before you. The advertisement of this meeting has been twenty-one days in the Press. There was no occasion for that. We shall have to pay \$25 for that, whereas \$7 would have done it. Why should that money belonging to the Company have been spent? I want to get as many dollars and cents as I can out of it.

Mr. STOKES—So do I.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not see why money should be spent foolishly. Why couldn't the directors and our manager liquidate the business? That would have cost nothing. You do not pay the directors anything. I haven't had a cent out of the Company. Suppose it comes to the point of transferring the Company—supposing it is sold, will the liquidator have the power or the legal standing to transfer this Company to another? Can you explain that to me? Who is going to pay for that? Is the liquidator or the Company going to pay?

Mr. STOKES—I do not know what the expenses will be.

The CHAIRMAN—I am speaking for myself and for half of the shareholders.

Mr. MAITLAND—I take it that the purchasers will have to pay for the preparation of the deed of assignment.

The CHAIRMAN—I hope that is understood.

Mr. MAITLAND—But the Company will have to pay the Company's solicitors for perusing.

The CHAIRMAN—There you are—that is what I want to know. Why not appoint a legal man as liquidator and settle the whole thing at once. I want to know what we are paying this \$500 for. That is the whole thing I want to know. What are we going to get out of it? If we have to take legal advice, supposing the Company is transferred, will the liquidator be able to transfer the Company to another Company with no extra expenses, or if not, who is going to pay the difference? Can any one explain that to me?

Mr. STOKES—I think you ought to have thought of that before.

The CHAIRMAN—That is what I want to know. I want to know what the liquidator gets this \$500 for.

Mr. MAITLAND—I have an offer for the business for which I am fully entitled to a commission. I am not asking the Company for a commission in this matter; it would come to a deal more than \$500. I take it that is by no means a big fee for the liquidation of this Company. The offer I have made is in two forms and if the offer of a lump sum is accepted it will mean a long business for the liquidator and I should not be prepared to accept the office for the small fee of \$500. If, on the other hand, the offer of so much per share is accepted by the shareholders, then the liquidation will not be a very big affair. In any case I think \$500 is a very reasonable sum.

The CHAIRMAN—Supposing the business is transferred to another Company, who is going to pay for it?

Mr. MAITLAND—The purchasers' solicitors will draw up the deed of assignment and the shareholders will have to pay the Company's solicitors for perusing and seeing that everything is proper.

The CHAIRMAN—I am sorry you have brought this subject up, that you have an offer of money. As the liquidator, truly I think you ought to be the last to bring the subject up. You ought to be acting on behalf of the shareholders and not on behalf of yourself.

Mr. MAITLAND—I am not doing anything of the kind, sir. I am doing my best for the shareholders. My dear sir, at the present moment I am representing nearly half of the Company. With regard to the offer, I wired to holders in London of 11,000 odd shares and the reply is that I am to accept. That was before I knew I was going to be appointed liquidator.

The CHAIRMAN—Just so, I want the London shareholders to be aware of this fact—that you should not be appointed liquidator as representing so many shares.

Mr. STOKES—It was the shareholders' option to appoint a liquidator.

The CHAIRMAN—That is quite another thing. What I want to know is what he is going to do for the \$500.

Mr. STOKES—Really you ought to know.

The CHAIRMAN—The books are in good form. They have been audited by an accountant—I think he is certified as a true accountant—and what more is he going to do?

Mr. BENJAMIN—Another concern would not be liquidated by the directors or Secretary how is it to be done here?

The CHAIRMAN—What is the legal power after we are thrown on the liquidator going to carry out? What correspondence?

January 14, 1897.

Mr. BENJAMIN—I suppose so.

The CHAIRMAN—There you are. I want to know what the liquidator is going to get the money for.

Mr. BENJAMIN—The liquidator's business is to take charge of everything.

The CHAIRMAN—I understand the word so far as the meaning goes. He ought to go through all the books. Is he going to do that? He ought to look over every book in the concern. Now he has not the time to do that.

Mr. BENJAMIN—How do you know? He has not said so.

Mr. STOKES—It is not going to be liquidated by degrees. It is going to be handed over to another Company or to someone for a lump sum.

The CHAIRMAN—I am quite aware of that.

Mr. STOKES—We want the money down from the other people; we shall not care anything about the books then. If they are contented, we are.

The CHAIRMAN—Who is going to pay the expense?

Mr. STOKES—There is no expense except in regard to the deed of assignment.

The CHAIRMAN—The liquidator gets \$500 for what?

Mr. STOKES—It is rather late in the day to object and say it is too much.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg your pardon. We are here only to confirm the resolution and I think I am not too late.

Mr. STOKES—The resolution is not about the \$500 but the authority to make the offer. We are here to agree to terms. I gather that the liquidator is entitled to his money, because that is passed.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not object, but I want to know what he is going to do.

Mr. STOKES—I don't know.

The CHAIRMAN—I want to know what he is doing for it?

A SHAREHOLDER—It's commission.

The CHAIRMAN—He can get the commission from the other side.

Mr. STOKES—Well, I think we are wasting our time here; we are not getting on at all. What are we going to do?

The CHAIRMAN—My reason is to satisfy myself as a pretty heavy shareholder, and I am sorry to have to bring the matter up. Our late Chairman, Mr. Fenwick, would have strongly objected to this, and he was a heavy shareholder, too. I do not see why this concern could not have been liquidated and brought to a close without appointing anyone at \$500.

Mr. COURTS—Have you anyone here who will second you in the matter? Unless you have it seems to me we are wasting a good deal of time.

The CHAIRMAN—I do not know. I wanted to put in my protest.

Mr. BENJAMIN—The only thing we must do is to put the resolutions to the vote.

The CHAIRMAN—if this concern is going to be wound up, is it going to be wound up for \$500?

Mr. MAITLAND—The Company will also have to pay the legal advisers for perusing the deed of assignment and seeing that everything is done in a proper legal form. It is only what must be expected.

Mr. BENJAMIN—I propose the confirmation of the first resolution—"That in accordance with the notice in the papers the Company be voluntarily wound up and that a Liquidator be appointed for such winding up."

Mr. STOKES—I beg to second.

Four shareholders voted for the resolution and no one voted against it.

Carried.

Mr. BENJAMIN then proposed the confirmation of the second resolution—"That Mr. F. Maitland be appointed Liquidator with a fee of \$500 for his services."

Mr. STOKES seconded.

Three hands were shown in favour and none against.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Well, gentlemen, that settles the business.

From the *Comercio* we learn that the English Club at Manila has taken a lease of Senor Inchausti's house at Ermita and will be installed in its new premises in March next. The event is to be honoured by a "brilliant feast."

THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE CO., LIMITED.

The ordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Company, Limited, was held in the offices of the General Managers, No. 5, Queen's Road Central, on the 8th January. Mr. J. H. Garrels presided and there were also present Messrs. H. Stolterfoht, P. Sachse, F. Henderson, H. Elmer, O. Von der Heyde, C. Schroeter, C. Rogge, and A. Lum.

The notice calling the meeting was read.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the report and accounts have been in your hands for several days, and with your permission we will follow the usual course and take them as read. The result of the first half-year has not quite come up to that of the last year, yet the net earnings have been sufficient to pay an interim dividend at the rate of 4 per cent., as anticipated. The reason for its not being paid earlier than in October was that it took some time to get in all the accounts. It was of importance for our lease that we should get a good survey report about the state of the buildings at the commencement of the lease and for that purpose a general overhaul of the properties was necessary. The cost of these repairs forms the greater portion of the item of \$1,220.12 appearing in the accounts as expenses in connection with the lease—the rest being made up of legal expenses and architect's fees. About the conditions of the lease I have spoken fully, when we last met in July. Suffice it to say, that henceforward for the next ten years there will be a regular half-yearly dividend at the rate of \$1.50 per share, payable early in January and July of each year. Nothing else occurs to me worth mentioning. If any shareholders have any questions I shall be glad to answer them.

There were no questions and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. VON DER HEYDE seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—As you will have seen, Messrs. Sachse and Stolterfoht, after giving us the full benefit of their valuable experience during the negotiations about the lease, have resigned their position, there being no more occasion for a Consulting Committee. In this I agree with them and I now beg to propose that we do not again elect a Consulting Committee.

Mr. HENDERSON seconded.

Carried.

Mr. STOLTERFOHT proposed, and Mr. SACHSE seconded, the re-election of Mr. Fullarton Henderson as auditor.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Dividend warrants can be had tomorrow on application. I thank you for your attendance.

The following is the report submitted:

The General Managers beg to submit to the shareholders their report on the working of the Company and a statement of accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1896.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders on the 11th July the lease with the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company was duly executed, and in consequence the active business of the Company ceased with the 30th June, so that the second half-year is the first period under the new lease.

The net profits of the first half-year, including \$1,406.05 brought forward from last account, but deducting \$1,220.12 expenses in connection with the lease, amounted to \$4,126.35, against which an interim dividend was paid on the 23rd October at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, absorbing \$3,900. Of the balance now at the credit of profit and loss account, \$4,134.35, the General Managers recommend the payment of a final dividend at the same rate, and to carry forward the balance of \$234.35 to new profit and loss account.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

On the lease being completed, Messrs. P. Sachse and H. Stolterfoht sent in their resignation, there being no more work for them, and for the same reason the General Managers propose not again to elect a Consulting Committee.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, whose re-election is recommended.

MEYER & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1897.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.

To capital account	\$2,000 shares at \$100	20,000.00
which \$37.50 are paid up		37.50
To mortgages of	.....	140,000.00
To mortgages of	.....	20,000.00
		160,000.00
To sundry creditors	.....	1449.36
To dividend account	.....	238.00
To reserve fund	.....	2,400.00
To balance of profit and loss account	.....	4,134.35
		5265.822.11

By Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	5,822.11
By property account	260,000.00
	5265.822.11

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1896.

By balance of 1895	1,406.05
By balance of working account of 1st Semester, 1896	10,435.85
By net rent for premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company for 2nd Semester, 1896	4,150.00
By transfer fees of 2nd Semester	8.00
	15,999.90

To expenses of 1st Semester, 1896	\$ 6,995.43
To Crown rent and taxes	81,785.24
To interest account	4,360.10
To fees to Consulting Committee	300.00
To auditor's fee	50.00
	89,495.43
To expenses in connection with the lease of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company	1,220.12
To interim dividend paid on 23rd October for 1st Semester	3,000.00
To commission to General Managers for 2nd Semester, 1896	250.00
To net profit	4,134.35
	15,999.90

THE PUNJOM MINING CO., LIMITED.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following progress report on the work carried on at Punjom during the month of November.

Mining.—Our usual attention has been given to all work coming under this head and fair progress made.

August Shaft 200ft. Level.—The stopes on both the east and west and north and south reefs have again given their usual quantity of ore for the mill, but the grade continues to be low. The stope opened on Gillies reef is showing a well-defined highly mineralized body of ore about 2 feet wide, but is still poor in free gold. By assay it is worth fully 15 dwts. per ton.

The reef discovered to the west of the new shaft and which looked so encouraging at date of my last report has proved very disappointing indeed, the reef having become broken and the ore too poor to mill even. Of course, this may improve directly, as it is opened on.

Intermediate Level.—The stopes and drives here have given their usual quantity of ore and should do so for some time longer, but I notice a falling off in value in that won from our best stope on the western chute. This may be only temporary, however.

110 feet Level.—The stopes here continue to give their usual quantity of ore for the mill and are without change to notice.

New Leader and Upper Stopes.—The various stopes and drives here have fully maintained their output of ore, but I regret to say two of our best points have become exhausted, having come up to the old native workings.

Drivage—Drivage for the month is 389 ft. ore mined 1,182 tons 10 cwt., made up as follows:—August shaft 546 tons, New Leader and Upper Stopes 636 tons 10 cwt.

Milling—This was carried on during 26 days, crushing 1,180 tons, yielding of melted gold 531 ounces.

Calcining Works—These ran 27 days treating of concentrates 45 tons, yielding of melted gold 77 ounces.

Cyanide Works—These ran 26 days, treating of tailings 612 tons, yielding of melted bullion 248 ounces, valued at per ounce £1.18 and 10 dwts.

Gubau—The blacksmiths' and carpenters' sheds have been completed and the houses for

the workpeople are in a forward state. The track to the Jelai river, where our machinery, etc., will be landed, is being made and another month should see it almost completed. The distance from the mine is about four and a half miles.

General.—We have given our usual attention to all work coming under this head, and with the heavy rains experienced this has kept us very busy; for the making of new roads into the jungle for firewood, &c., and the upkeep of the old roads and bridges is a heavy item. Much of this will be got over, however, so soon as we get the waterwheel to work, which should be within the coming month.

Labour.—The supply of this has been fairly plentiful.

Health.—Owing to the cold wet weather this is not so good as could be wished.

Rainfall.—The total rainfall for the month is 114 inches.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP FOR JANUARY.

New Year's day and the three following days were fixed for this competition and a goodly number of members appeared on the links. Play was favoured by bright warm weather and some of the returns showed steady and improved play in spite of the greens being lively and the links rather dry and hard. Both the winners of the Cup and the Pool are to be congratulated on their success; the winner of the latter on his very considerably reduced handicap, since he took the Cup last month, returning a very good card, including a 7 and 8 at the long hole. The Cup winner will naturally expect to have his long handicap interfered with by the Committee, and he is naturally proud of the notice taken of his return.

A record of the green had to be noted during the meeting, viz., at the seventh hole, where a most determined player succeeded in holing out with 49 to his credit, which he persisted in recording, against a 45 given by his caddie; doubtless by the time they had both got to these figures, they had begun to lose count, but they are both alive to tell the tale.

We may here perhaps draw the attention of members to two matters of etiquette, viz., that on competition days parties playing three or more balls should reserve themselves for days when they would not interfere with competitors, and in any case to at once permit matches to pass, and, further, that no "mixed foursomes" are allowed on competition days.

Attention to the above points would much add to the harmony of the game and remove all chance of questions arising, or of complaints reaching the ears of the Committee.

The quarterly meeting for the MacEwen Cup, Pools, and Bogey Cup will be held from Friday, the 8th, to Monday, the 11th inst.

Subjoined is the record of the cards handed in for the Captain's Cup and Pool.—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. H. W. Robertson	101	18	83
Mr. W. J. Saunders	102	18	84
Major Grant Dalton	96	11	85
Mr. C. H. Grace	98	12	96
Mr. W. S. Froud, R.N.	107	18	89
Mr. G. Stewart	93	4	89
Mr. G. T. M. Thomson	95	6	89
Mr. H. W. Slade	106	16	90
Mr. Green, R.A.	105	12	93
Mr. C. E. Hume	97	3	94
24 entries.			

POOL.

Mr. C. W. May	89	7	82
Mr. W. S. Froud, R.N.	102	18	84
Mr. H. W. Robertson	103	18	85
Mr. C. H. Grace	98	12	86
Mr. G. Stewart	93	4	89
Mr. G. T. M. Thomson	95	6	89
Mr. Green, R.A.	105	12	93
30 entries.			

MAEWEN CUP.

This competition, which commenced on the 8th inst., was completed on Tuesday. The weather during the first three days was all that could be desired, but on the fourth day heavy rain fell and practically put a stop to further play, though two venturesome votaries of the game essayed to brave the elements, with the result

that they had to give in and rest content with a drenching. Scoring was not good, save in the case of the winner, who returned a steadily played card, thus taking the "Cup" and "Optional Sweep" and also running the "Colonel" a dead heat. The entries were fairly up to an average. Results are given below:—

"MAEWEN CUP" AND "SWEEPSTAKES."

Mr. H. Pinckney	91	14	77*
Major Grant Dalton	96	11	85
Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	97	8	89
Mr. E. Ormiston	107	18	89
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	107	18	89
Mr. H. W. Robertson	104	15	89
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	100	9	91
Mr. A. F. R. Greene	106	12	94

* Wins the Sweep.

20 entries for the Cup and 10 entries for the Sweepstakes.

POOL.

Mr. G. M. T. Thomson	90	6	84
Major Grant Dalton	96	11	85
Capt. Trotman, R.M.L.I.	105	18	87
Mr. H. W. Robertson	103	15	88
Mr. C. W. May	98	6	92
Mr. A. F. R. Greene	106	12	94
Mr. W. Taylor	115	21	94
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	104	9	95

14 entries.

BOGEY.

Mr. H. Pinckney	(14)	—	all square.
Mr. F. J. Badeley	(12)	—	1 down.
Mr. W. Taylor	(21)	—	1 "
Capt. Trotman, R.M.L.I.	(18)	—	2 "
Mr. G. M. T. Thomson	(6)	—	3 "
Major Grant Dalton	(11)	—	4 "
Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins	(8)	—	4 "
Mr. E. Ormiston	(18)	—	5 "
Mr. H. W. Robertson	(15)	—	5 "
Mr. A. F. R. Greene	(12)	—	6 "
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	(18)	—	6 "
Mr. C. W. May	(6)	—	7 "
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	(9)	—	7 "

21 entries.

CRICKET.

SCOTLAND AND CHINA v. THE WORLD.

The original intention of all parties was to pit Scotland against the rest of the globe with a view to preventing any break in the series of such contests; but the people whose watchwords are, *inter alia*, cohesion and patriotism could not, from various causes such as modesty, or perhaps dollars or casualties or lack of enthusiasm, raise a full contingent, but had to make an alliance with China, whose representatives, accustomed to a certain willow pattern, had no knowledge of the real and proper use for which the willow was intended. Having tried to explain the causes and nature of the alliance, we proceed to narrate the sad fate of the allies, who batting first on a sound wicket performed the highly ridiculous evolution known as "a solemn procession between the Pavilion and the wickets":

"Not a drum was heard not a funeral note

As their corses to the Pav. were hurried," for the band was not yet on the ground. A good deal is often said, and was on this occasion said, about bad luck: if this phrase is accepted as a euphemism for bad play, we agree; but if puny batting, ill-judged running, and buttered fingers are the result of fate and not the sin of the individual, we demur. Under the circumstances, it would be as interesting to relate minutely how my cook wrung the neck of the game cock presented to me at Xmas as to narrate in detail the mauling which the Scotch bowling received at the hands of the World. It certainly is difficult to kindle enthusiasm over a massacre; so Messrs. Mountjoy, Howard, Ward, Ayscough, and Smith will overlook the absence of any eulogy of their misdeeds: just one word to Ward, and that is, that two feet above the ground is a better height than fifty feet for the course of a ball; more ground driving and late cutting would have enhanced the merits of his and this season's first century in a first class match. In their second innings the allies fared scarcely better and the contest came to an abrupt termination early on Saturday afternoon. Subsequently some yachtsmen went into practice at the nets, presumably with the intention of having an early go at the Scots. This is the fourth

match of the kind played, and each side has won twice. In 1889 the World won by 21 runs, the scoring being low and all four innings being played out. In 1893 Scotland won by an innings and 7 runs, and in 1895 by 60 runs on the first innings, the World—with a strong batting team—requiring 193 to win and 10 wickets to fall.

By the courtesy of Colonel Faithfull and officers, the band of the Hongkong Regiment played on the ground at Saturday afternoon.

Appended are the score and analysis:

SCOTLAND.

	1st Innings.	2nd Innings.
A. McKenzie, b Howard	7	c Elliott, b Howard
Sir Robert Arbuthnot, c Johnstone, b Lt. Wood	5	Howard
J. W. Farie, R.N., run out	0	not out
E. W. Maitland, b Wood	1	c T. S. Smith, b Wood
L. S. Crawford, run out	4	c Mast, b Howard
A. Anderson, b Howard	6	b A. G. Ward
G. Stewart, l.b.w., b Howard	1	b Howard
G. M. Thomson, c Cox, b Howard	1	c Mast, b Ward
H. Grant Smith, not out	0	c Ward, b Ayscough
Extras	3	Extras

28

60

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	First Innings.	Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wides.	N.B.	Wickets.
Lieut. Howard	8	2	21	—	—	1	4
Lieut. Wood	7	5	4	—	—	2	

Second Innings.

Lieut. Howard	9	2	11	—	—	1	
St. Wood	9	3	16	—	—	1	
Perry-Ayscough	3.3	—	12	—	—	1	
A. G. Ward	3	1	14	—	—	2	

THE WORLD.

Rev. G. R. Vallings, c G. Stewart, b Crawford	1
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Princess being next, with Chanticleer, Maid Marian, and Meteor sailing on. A reach brought them to Kowloon Rock, which was passed as follows, the second class, having a better wind at their start, having closed up on the laggards of the first class.—

	H.	M.	S.
Sybil	11	57	51
Phoebe	11	58	20
Active	11	59	34
Erica	11	59	50
Princess	12	1	5
Chanticleer	12	4	14
Maid Marian	12	5	55
Meteor	12	6	50
Ladybird	12	12	48
Dart	12	14	27
Payne	12	16	0
She	12	17	5
Eileen	12	31	6

Eileen here gave up and went into a secluded bay to tiffin. Several changes took place in the beat up to Channel Rocks, when Phoebe had been passed by Active, Erica, and Princess, and Meteor had got ahead of Maid Marian. Payne had also caught up to Dart. A close reach brought the boats to the Lyemoon mark-boat in much the same order, the boats having to keep clear of a Japanese steamer coming in. In the run down to Kowloon Rock the shortest way proved the nearest, as Erica and Phoebe both made better time than Sybil and Active, passing the latter and closing up on the former, and the rock was rounded the second time as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Sybil	1	1	42
Erica	1	2	22
Phoebe	1	2	50
Active	1	3	8
Princess	1	3	48
Chanticleer	1	6	10
Meteor	1	8	30
Maid Marian	1	8	31
Ladybird	1	19	5
Payne	1	19	38
Dart	1	20	40
She	1	25	55

A great fight took place in the short beat to Channel Rocks between the two leading boats in each class for first place at the Rocks, when Erica came off best in the first class and Ladybird in the second, but no other changes took place to near the finish. Erica kept her lead to the line, but Phoebe closed up on both Erica and Sybil. Chanticleer, which was receiving 28 seconds time allowance, saved her time on Princess, and Payne passed Ladybird just before the finish, but as the latter was in receipt of 3 minutes she scored a win.

The times crossing the line were as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	1	57	10
Sybil	1	58	15
Phoebe	1	58	21
Active	2	2	21
Princess	2	3	7
Chanticleer	2	3	21
Meteor	2	3	30
Maid Marian	2	4	7
Payne	2	14	11
Ladybird	2	14	19
Dart	2	16	30
She	3	24	24

The Erica and Ladybird each score 10
The Sybil and Payne each score 4
The Phoebe and Dart each score 1
The number of marks scored up to date are now:—

FIRST CLASS.

Erica	...	25
Sybil	...	20
Phoebe	...	15
Maid Marian	...	14
Meteor	...	1

SECOND CLASS.

She	...	28
Dart	...	25
Ladybird	...	10
Payne	...	4
Seabreeze	...	4
Eileen	...	2

COMMODORE'S CUP—SECOND RACE.

This race was sailed on Saturday, the 9th January, starting at two o'clock. The course was round Kowloon Dock Buoy, Kowloon Rock

and Channel Rocks, leaving them to starboard, mark-boat off Meyer's Oil Stores and Dock Buoy, leaving them to port, and finishing at the starting line. The following boats started:

FIRST CLASS.

Active	...	Mr. H. E. Pollock
Meteor	...	Mr. T. W. Lammert
Princess	...	Mr. Jas. McKie.
Maid Marian	...	Mr. J. Hastings.
Erica	...	Mr. A. Denison.
Sybil	...	Officers, R.E.
Chanticleer	...	Mr. C. A. Tomes.

SECOND CLASS.

Dart	...	Dr. Clarke.
Payne	...	Officers, R.E.
Ladybird	...	Mr. Grist.
She	...	Mr. E. M. Hazeland.
Eileen	...	Capt. Phillips.
Seabreeze	...	Capt. Long.
Elfin	...	Mr. Hamann.

The wind was light at the start, but increased to a steady breeze when the boats got past the Kowloon Rock.

The Meteor went off with a lead from the start, but as the fleet was spread all over the harbour it was hard to tell how they stood until the Kowloon Rock was rounded, when the order was Meteor, Chanticleer, Active, Erica, Maid Marian, Sybil, and Princess in first class, and Dart, She, Ladybird, Eileen, Elfin, and Payne in the second class. This order was maintained until after Channel Rocks were rounded, when Erica, Sybil, and Maid Marian passed Active on the run down to North Point. A short reach to the Dock Bay found the Meteor, Chanticleer, and Erica at intervals of fifty yards with a good lead from Sybil and Maid Marian, which were at fairly close quarters, with Active not far behind.

In the run down to the finish Erica passed Chanticleer in Dock Bay and caught Meteor at Blackhead's Point, and was able to win by a nose, so to speak. The line was crossed as follows:—

FIRST CLASS.

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	3	38	21
Meteor	3	38	24
Chanticleer	3	39	5
Sybil	3	40	0
Maid Marian	3	40	2
Active	3	41	2
Princess	3	46	21

SECOND CLASS.

	H.	M.	S.
Dart	3	49	46
She	3	50	45
Ladybird	3	55	8
Elfin	3	55	27
Eileen	3	57	45

The Active, receiving two minutes, saved her time on Chanticleer, Sybil, and Maid Marian for third place.

In the second class the winners of points were She, first, 10; Elfin, second, 4; and Dart, third, 1.

The points scored in this competition are now as follows:—

Erica	14	She	14
Meteor	14	Dart	11
Chanticleer	1	Elfin	4
Active	1	Eileen	1

We have to acknowledge receipt of the first number of *Sport and Gossip*, founded by the well-known sporting writer "Daybreak," and published under the motto of "Play the game." It is extremely well written, is bright and interesting, and we hope it has come to stay, but unfortunately infantile mortality in the journalistic world runs rather high, and we have some fear that *Sport and Gossip* may find its aliment insufficient. What will it do in the scorching summer months, when there is no sport going on, no dramatic or musical entertainments, and when gossip turns chiefly on the weather, cholera, and sudden deaths? However, we hope our fears may prove unfounded and for the present can only congratulate "Daybreak" on having produced in his first number one of the most readable papers ever published in the Far East. Amongst the contents we notice a criticism of the Hongkong A.D.C.'s performance and a column of "Hongkong Notes."

SONGS OF A SOLITARY SUBALTEEN.

THE LOSS OF THE "ACTIVE."

The wind had freshened to half a gale, And the boys foreseeing they'd have to bail Exclaimed, "More better my reef that sail."

"Make it so," said the skipper.

II.

The first time round, well up in the race, They ran to the mark at a rattling pace, And the skipper murmured, "We're sure of a place."

"We'll make it so," thought the skipper.

III.

Now a lubberly junk with a lubberly crew, And a lubberly chief, with wives not a few, Children and pigs, and a fowl or two,

"A beast of a junk," thought the skipper.

IV.

That lubberly master that afternoon Had made a wild vow to reach Lyemoon Which was rash, in the strong north-east monsoon.

"Can do," thought the Chinese skipper.

V.

Making short tacks to keep out of the tide, Blanketed yachts all their efforts defied, And crashed straight into the "Active's" side.

"We're done for now," said the skipper.

VI.

The skipper was now in a bit of a mess, Stuck in the sail for a minute or less, Was picked up then by the old "Princess."

"A bit too cold," thought the skipper.

VII.

Much tired he lay in the boat for a rest; He'd lost his "specs," looked wet and distressed. "Oh, have you a drop of McGregor's best?"

"Temperance boat," said the skipper.

VIII.

from the commercial ports and the facility of access by the Red River, a place which promises a good outlet for French manufactures and goods. The local papers have gallantly seconded the efforts of their home contemporaries, and the Government has at last been persuaded to move. Once it has started, it is not easy for it to stop. The Lyons Mission has overrun the greater part of Yunnan, visiting all the commercial centres, and studying carefully its trade prospects. The Red River has been studied by experts with the view of facilitating the navigation of its numerous rapids. Messrs. Marty & D'Abbadie sent up several engineers in 1895 to blast the rocks which obstruct the river and have done much already towards this end. They will no doubt continue the work so well begun, and clear the river of its obstructions.

The activity in pushing forward the railway from Hanoi to Dong-dang, and from thence to Lungchow, whence it is said the Compagnie de Fives-Lille have likewise obtained the concession to continue it to Po-ting, the highest navigable port on the West River, is another proof of the eagerness of the Government to meet the wishes of the people. Lastly, owing to the numerous complaints brought against the Customs regulations here the Government has submitted several schemes to ameliorate the existing state of affairs. Nothing more is wanting but a few enterprising merchants to at once establish firms in Yunnan. At present none exist. Mr. Bleton, who holds the opium contract, has no business house in Yunnan, but deals with the Chinese through his son and compradore at Laokay. The store of Mr. Guilbert at Mengtzu is managed by Chinamen and bears a Chinese name. It is, besides, altogether too small, and the goods exhibited are of a miscellaneous character—plates, lamps, watches, music-boxes, etc.—not at all what is wanted in such a place. Messrs. Marty & D'Abbadie have erected a godown at Manhao, a very good idea, as they are thus enabled to convey goods for the merchants at Mengtzu direct from Hongkong, whereas hitherto these merchants were obliged to pay a commission on each package to their agents at Laokay and Manhao for storing the goods on arrival and superintending their conveyance by junk to Manhao and thence by mule to Mengtzu.

The Annamites are becoming more insolent and intolerable every day. A gentleman, while out shooting, saw some teal in the middle of a large pond, and wishing to get at them hailed a native canoe which was close by. The boatman in helping him to enter the craft took hold of his gun, which went off suddenly, mortally wounding the native. In spite of the efforts made to save him, the man died a few minutes after. A crowd of natives who had witnessed the whole scene, but who had abstained from giving any assistance, thereupon surrounded the Frenchman and forcibly conducted him to a post of native guards in the neighbourhood. The doi, the Annamite in charge of the post, instantly ordered the European to be chained and conducted between four bayonets to Hanoi, in spite of the protestations of four gentleman who happened to pass at the time. Upon arrival here, the captive was of course at once released, and the doi had to kowtow to the man he so daringly insulted, and will, no doubt, lose his appointment. The villagers will likewise be severely punished. The family of the deceased has asked \$100 as compensation, a great sum for the Annamites.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

As already reported, all the shops in Kutai, Hupun, and several neighbouring streets suspended business and went on strike on the ground that the Hunan soldiers had maliciously struck an old man and wounded a Canton soldier who interfered with them on account of their unjust act; that at last a Hunan soldier was also wounded by the Canton soldiers and that the military officer in command of the Hunan soldiers laid the blame on a shop, from which a considerable amount of property was abstracted by the Hunan soldiers. The matter has now been settled. The Viceroy and the Governor sent the Namhoi Magistrate to advise the kaifeng people to reopen their shops and resume

business. The Magistrate promised to dismiss the seventeen Hunan soldiers. The wounded Canton soldier was compensated with sixty dollars and the shop which the military officer had laid the blame on was also amply compensated, and each shop in the disturbed district was given a packet of crackers, which were fired on the afternoon of the 31st December, when all the shops were reopened.

On the 31st December two men took a cow to the market for sale, but the animal being very wild the men were unable to manage her. She broke loose and ran furiously along the streets and trampled down everything that was in her way. An old woman, an old man, and a beggar were thrown down, the old woman being killed instantly and the two others, who were removed to their houses, dying afterwards. Several other people were also injured. The cow at last got to a pond, into which she jumped, and she was then shot. The owners of the cow escaped.

Rumours have been current in Canton that a European has applied to the Viceroy to be allowed to buy a site at Samsui on which to erect a godown. Samsui is midway between Wuchow and Canton. It is further said that the Viceroy sent for the Magistrate of Samsui on the 1st instant to consult with him on the question of building a large wharf at Samsui for the benefit of trade, when Wuchow is opened. The Magistrate returned to Samsui on the 3rd instant, but no information has been given as to whether the application of the European has been granted or not.

Several days ago a man was sent by the Wai On bank to carry three hundred dollars to a house. While he was passing along the streets some criminals sprang upon him and seized all the money in his possession. The man gave pursuit and three robbers were arrested by the policemen. The captives reported that a good number of their brother-thieves were in a paper shop named Kung Tai. The policemen then at once made a raid on the house in question and a large quantity of powder and many revolvers, besides many valuable articles, were found therein. The house was sealed up and the captives were sent to Canton for trial.

Some days ago a mat-shop named Fung Yuen was robbed in broad daylight in Canton. Four robbers were captured. They will most probably lose their heads.

Last week a Pak-kap lottery was discovered in the Yamen of the Viceroy. Several baskets of old lottery tickets were found. About forty men, ten of whom were petty officers, were arrested in connection with the gambling. They have been all sent to the Namhoi Magistrate for trial.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 7th January.

The last Timor mail brought bad news from that island, and people who have just returned from there are strong in their condemnation of the stupidity and folly with which Senhor Celestino is administering that unfortunate colony. The treasury is quite empty, and though 18 centos (about \$35,000) have been sent from Lisbon the Government servants still remain without the pay that has been due to them for several months past. The wars have come to an end at last, Senhor Celestino having had enough of them, but they have left the colony prostrate and almost ruined. It is said that twenty years' revenue will not be sufficient to bring the finances into order again. The Government's accounts with the Chinese merchants are very large and all have to be settled in some way. Rice, which in Macao is selling for \$3 or \$4 a picul, in Timor costs \$10. This is chiefly on account of the Government servants not getting their pay, so that they have to buy all necessities on credit, and the merchants have to cover themselves by charging high prices. Also the Governor, not knowing how to raise sufficient income to cover the expenditure, has increased the taxation payable by the Chinese and these in turn charge more for their goods. Trade is at a very low ebb, the exports being small and the imports having ceased almost altogether because, owing to the despotism of Senhor Celestino and the constant wars, large numbers

of the natives of Portuguese Timor have taken refuge in Dutch Timor, so that there is now no market for foreign goods. This will make the revenue fall lower and lower.

On the 31st December a supplement to the *Boletim Official* was issued declaring the island of Timor and its administration independent of Macao, so the two colonies are now entirely separate from each other, except that we have to help Timor with \$60,000 a year, money that we very badly need ourselves.

The negotiations with the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. for the building of a dredger for our harbour have fallen through and tenders will now be received from any other concern that will accept the Government's conditions.

In last Saturday's *Boletim* an order was issued for the making of a sea wall from the north point of Sakong to Green Island. The mud dredged from the harbour will be deposited here and an area of some 130,000 square metres will be reclaimed. As Senhor Horto e Costa has given orders for the wall to be commenced no doubt he knows where the money is to come from. His Excellency is evidently attending seriously to the subject.

The Praya Grande wall remains in the ruinous condition in which it was left by the typhoon, although more than six months have now elapsed. It is not so surprising that nothing should be done with the San Domingo market, because that is in the Chinese quarter and not being constantly before the eyes of the European community may be forgotten, but the Praya Grande is constantly seen by every one and is under the windows of the principal authorities, so that it cannot be forgotten, yet it is allowed to remain without attention. As for the streets in general, walking in them, when the rains commence, will be like walking in the paddy fields.

The year 1897 I hope may be a prosperous one for our small colony, that all may go smoothly, and that public works that are commenced will be proceeded with and carried to completion, instead of time and money being wasted by delay. I hope that before the end of the year I may at least be able to report that the Praya Grande has been repaired, the San Domingo market rebuilt, the square in front of the Leal Senado finished in accordance with the plan, the streets placed in a proper state of repair, the drainage throughout the colony made like that at Volong, and that articles in the market are again sold at moderate prices.

A telegram was received yesterday from Lisbon saying that the Ministry has fallen. A general election will have to take place.

HONGKONG.

Muggy weather and continuous rain have made out of door exercise an uncomfortable task during the past few days, but fortunately the elements were good enough on Friday and Saturday to enable the important cricket match, Scotland v. The World to be decided. Dr. Rizal caused a sensation by marrying a Hongkong lady an hour and a half before he was publicly shot in Manila. The inhabitants of Kowloon held a meeting on Thursday to consider what steps should be taken to establish a school in that district and it was decided to petition the Government on the subject. On Saturday there was another armed robbery in the city, the victims being the inmates of a shop in Winglo Street, who acted very stupidly after the danger was over. The shareholders in the Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Limited, and in Dakin, Cruickshank and Co., Limited, have held meetings. In regard to the latter company arrangements for the liquidation of the concern were confirmed. The shareholders in the City Hall met on Saturday.

At a quarter to four on the morning of the 10th January the firemen were roused from their slumbers by the loud clang of the fire bell, which alleged a fire to have broken out in the western district. Mr. May and his men promptly turned out, and after an anxious search for a flame it was found that the alarm was too previous, and the firemen and a number of policemen under Inspector Baker returned the call by getting in again as quickly as possible.

There were 3,312 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 272 were Europeans. The stamp revenue in 1896 amounted to \$288,298, being an increase of \$9,131 on the amount collected in 1895.

The Hongkong Football Club won their match against Lieut. Howard's eleven on the 5th January by two goals to one.

A Scotch concert in commemoration of the birth of Robert Burns is to be given on the 25th January under the auspices of St. Andrew's Society.

The maximum temperature last month was 76.5, on the 19th, and the minimum 40.7, on the 23rd, the mean for the month being 62.2. The rainfall amounted to 1.29 inches.

We are informed by the General Managers of the New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited, that a telegram has been received from the mines stating that a first crushing of stone at grass averaged 6 dwts. to the ton, realizing £230, and that the stone is likely to improve.

Mr. H. E. Pollock's yacht *Active* was sunk on the 10th January by collision with a junk while rounding one of the mark boats in the yacht race. Fortunately Mr. Pollock and his crew of one Chinaman were safely picked up. The boat sank in nine fathoms of water, but was raised next day.

The Committee of the Hongkong Football Competition met on Monday evening and drew the ties for the second round with the following results:—Winner of Colts and 35th Company, R.A., tie (at present undecided) v. Royal Engineers; B Company, W.Y.R., v. Kowloon; H.M.S. *Centurion* v. Hongkong Football Club; A Company, W.Y.R., v. D Company, W.Y.R. To be played off before 1st March next.

The wife or concubine of the man who was executed for murdering a lukong at Wan-chai has reported to the police that she was robbed on Sunday night by three men armed with swords and revolvers. She says the men entered her house, threatened her, and then carried away two boxes containing clothing and a pair of jade stone bangles, of the value altogether of \$6. It is doubtful whether there is any truth in the woman's statement.

On the 6th January the Hongkong Colts played the 35th Company, S.D., R.A., at the Happy Valley in the first round for the Hongkong football shield. The first half was fairly equal and each side scored once. The second half was for the most of the time in favour of the soldiers, but neither side scored and extra time was played. Again the soldiers showed better form, but there was no further scoring and the game was left a draw—one goal each.

A bill collector was charged on the 11th January with embezzling \$22 from his employer, a contractor, of 27, Hollywood Road. Prisoner was arrested by Sergeant Holt and admitted the offence. The Magistrate sent him to gaol for three months, but on the application of Mr. Bowley, who prosecuted and said the prosecutor did not desire to press the charge, the sentence was reduced to a fine of \$50 and a recommendation will be made for the prisoner's banishment.

From Saigon papers we learn that on Admiral Buller's landing at Saigon, where he had arrived in the *Alacrity* on the 4th January, he was received by a guard of honour from the marine infantry with the band. In the evening Admiral de Beaumont entertained the English Admiral at dinner, M. Ducos, the Lieutenant-Governor, and other high officials being present to meet His Excellency. On the 6th an excursion to My tho took place. In the evening there was a dinner on board the *Alacrity*, and on the 7th there was to be a dinner at Government House.

An office boy in the employ of Mr. G. Harling, merchant and consul for Austria-Hungary, was charged on the 8th January with obtaining \$5 by means of false pretences from his master. The prisoner presented an order for \$5 to Mr. Harling's compradore and as the order purported to bear the signature of Mr. Harling the money was paid. The trick was discovered and Detective Sergeant Molver arrested the prisoner. Prosecutor asked the Magistrate to deal leniently with the boy. His Worship said that but for that request he would have imposed a sentence of six months' imprisonment, but under the circumstances the penalty would be forty-two days with hard labour. Mr. Holmes defended the prisoner.

The Volunteer Dance will take place at the City Hall on Friday, 5th February.

Amongst the passengers who left by the P. and O. steamer *Sunda* was Captain Sterling, A.D.C., who goes home on short leave. Everyone will wish the gallant captain a pleasant holiday.

On the 6th Jan. the British barque *West York*, which had to be dismasted during a perilous voyage some months ago, was sold by auction by Mr. Lammert. There was a good deal of bidding for the hull, which was sold to Mr. Dunbar for \$5,800. The sails, cables, anchors, &c., were sold in lots for about \$2,500.

On the 8th January Hon. Commander Hastings had before him Wong Ying, Messrs. Watkins and Co.'s shroff, who was charged with embezzlement, the total amount of his defalcations being \$516. He collected the money from various customers, altered the accounts, and on the 28th of last month absconded. P.S. Holt and P.C. 161 made enquiries and on Tuesday night learnt that the embezzler was in Stanley Street. The officers went there and arrested the wanted man. He was sent to gaol for six months with hard labour.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during the month ended 31st December, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average amount.	Specie in reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China...	\$2,175,837	\$1,200,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	4,904,834	2,500,000
National Bank of China, Limited	360,636	225,000
Total ...	\$7,441,307	\$3,925,000

On Saturday afternoon the Hongkong Football Club met the 12th Company R.A. at the Happy Valley in the first round of the shield competition. There was a very good attendance of spectators. In the first half the soldiers played the stronger game, but—and the remark applies to both sides—the passing of the forwards was tardy and the shooting weak and inaccurate and some good chances of scoring were foolishly thrown away. The Club pressed the Artillery very hard in the second portion of the game and about fifteen minutes before time one of the Artillery halves had the misfortune to get his leg injured and he had to stop playing. The Club, however, were not able to take substantial advantage of their opponents' weakness and when time was called neither side had scored. Although one man short the Artillery consented to play extra time and three goals were then scored against them, the game thus ending in a win for the Club. The winners received great support from Lieutenant Grayson, who for some reason played against his own men and did much towards beating them.

Since polo was started in Hongkong in 1887 there have been only two accidents in the field and they were not the direct result of this popular game. The first player injured was Captain Glubb, of the Royal Artillery, who sustained a broken collar bone owing to his pony crossing its legs and throwing the rider. The second accident, which occurred to Lieutenant Buzzard on the 6th instant on the polo ground, was exactly similar, and the result is that Mr. Buzzard is compelled to lie quiet at the Royal Artillery Officers' mess, and it is rumoured that he is taking advantage of his enforced confinement indoors by invoking the aid of his favourite muse. A stirring poem could be written on one curious feature of the accident. After Mr. Buzzard was thrown he had no idea that his collar bone was broken; he felt an unusual something there, but suspected nothing serious and he went on playing until the game was finished. The pain increased and he was taken care of by Mr. May, who advised him to see a doctor. They returned to the Club and saw Dr. Ayres, who told Mr. Buzzard what was the matter with him and at once set the bone and sent him home. The fact that there have been only a couple of accidents on the polo field during ten years and that they were due to one cause, the crossing of a pony's legs, which might happen anywhere, clearly shows that no one could successfully contend that polo is a specially dangerous sport.

The case in which a German seaman was charged with furiously driving and thereby injuring a mafoo was settled at the Police Court on the 7th January on the application of Mr. Gedge. Defendant paid \$50 compensation to the mafoo, \$35 for hospital expenses, and \$35 compensation to Mr. Kennedy for the damage done to the trap.

Mrs. F. H. May gave her annual New Year entertainment to the children of the members of the Police force on Saturday afternoon at the Central Police Station. A large Christmas tree loaded with the best of toys was placed in the billiard room and each child was handed two presents by Father Christmas (Mr. D. R. Sassoon), after which the children enjoyed a spirited romp in the police compound, which was tastefully decorated. It was a delightful treat to see Mr. May, Captain Sterling, A.D.C., Dr. Atkinson, Mrs. May, Mrs. Lockhart, a few nurses from the hospital, and other ladies and gentlemen gaily frolicking with the little ones and doing all they possibly could to make the enjoyment thorough. There were also numerous races and a tug of war, the last named event being a well fought contest between the boys and girls. The boys once again proved that the girls were the weaker sex, but no hearts were broken and tea and delicious cakes, which were served by the ladies—who were very strong in this office—healed any sore wounds caused by defeat. The children could not have had a happier time.

The *Avenir du Tonkin* says:—The coal of the Société Française des Charbonnages du Tonkin is steadily making its way on the markets of the Far East and with new contracts now running a still greater extension may be looked for in 1897. The following table shows the sales effected by the Hongkong agency, not counting those effected in Tonkin:—

	1895.	1896.
	Tons.	Tons.
January ...	5,836	6,633
February ...	2,584	5,787
March ...	2,969	10,033
April ...	3,408	7,583
May ...	4,968	11,279
June ...	6,069	7,154
July ...	9,888	13,275
August ...	10,395	12,650
September ...	3,261	11,000
	49,398	85,397

This shows an increase of 35,999 tons for the first nine months of the year. The Company has established a depot at Saigon, where the first cargo was sold before it was discharged. Shipments are also about to be made to Singapore and different Chinese ports where the coal has not yet been placed on the market. These excellent results are due to the skill and activity of the Company's manager, M. Delpon.

An Acting Indian Sergeant acted in a most commendable manner on the 7th January, his smartness resulting in the capture and conviction of two burglars. At ten minutes past two an alarm of burglary was raised by the inmates of a house, No. 2, Ship Street, and the Acting Sergeant hastened to the house, satisfied himself that the alarm was genuine, and at once stationed a number of constables at each end of the street and gave instructions that no one was to be allowed to pass. It was fortunate that at this time the police were changing duties and consequently a number of them, including P.C. Read, were soon on the spot. A thorough search was made and, thanks to the precautions taken, three men were arrested in a common lodging house. The appearance of one man showed most clearly how the burglary had been effected. His hands and feet were black with soot and an examination of the house proved that the burglars had obtained admission by slinging a rope from an adjoining cook house and hooking it on to a chimney, down which one of them slipped and brought up clothing and jewellery of the value of \$40. The property was found in the common lodging house. The men were taken before Hon. Commander Hastings on the 7th Jan. and the one with the begrimed hands and feet was sent to gaol for six weeks, the second man was bound over to keep the peace for six months, in default of finding a surety for \$100 to be imprisoned for six weeks, and the third man was discharged, there being no evidence against him.

1 cask wood oil; for Glasgow.—21 packages effects.

The German steamer *Oceana*, from Hongkong to Havre, 31st December, took:—28 cases bristles, 25 boxes staranised, 73 bales canes, 369 rolls matting, 1 case feathers; for Havre option Hamburg.—500 cases cassia, 80 rolls matting, 3 cases silks, 10 cases chinaware, 200 cases camphor, 100 cases staranised; for Havre option Hamburg option London.—303 cases camphor, 8 cases bristles, 100 cases staranised, 50 bales feathers; for Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp.—100 cases bristles; for Havre option London.—50 cases staranised; for Hamburg.—50 cases palm-leaffans, 438 bales feathers, 20 boxes essential oil, 139 packages canes, 298 cases camphor, 5 cases bambooare, 235 cases staranised, 55 cases bristles, 50 cases preserves, 3 bales hair, 30 bales rattan shavings, 220 bales rattanware, 100 bales rattans, 40 boxes gallinuts, 80 rolls matting, 41 cases chinaware, 7 packages sundries; for Hamburg option Antwerp option London.—100 boxes staranised; for Amsterdam.—88 packages paints.

The steamer *Yarra*, 6th January, Hongkong to France, took:—58 bales raw silk, 75 bales waste silk, 16 bales hair, 13 cases silk piece goods, 3 cases woodware, 200 cases staranised, 50 packages tea, 20 packages matting; for London.—249 packages matting, 600 bales hemp.

The German steamer *Bayern*, Hongkong to Singapore, 7th January, took:—100 baskets oranges; to Colombo, 50 cases fire crackers, 28 pots flowers, 15 rolls matting, 13 baskets china-roots; to Genoa.—100 bales waste silk, 50 cases staranised, 19 bales canes, 10 cases essential oil; to Novara.—200 bales waste silk; to Milan.—100 bales waste silk; to Lyons, 152 bales raw silk; to Trieste.—231 packages tea, 67 bales waste silk, 50 bales rattan-shaving; for Antwerp.—619 bales leaf tobacco, and 213 bales feathers, 49 roll matting, 30 cases chinaware, 10 cases bamboo fans.

10 bags coffee, 8 cases leaf tobacco, 7 cases merchandise, 3 cases preserves; for Antwerp/A'dam/R'dam.—100 cases preserves and 27 bales leaf tobacco, 25 casks preserves, 25 casks ginger; for Amsterdam.—187 bales leaf tobacco, 6 cases chinaware, 5 bales canes, 3 cases merchandise; for Amsterdam/Rotterdam.—40 cases ginger; for Rotterdam.—8 cases leaf tobacco and 4 bales leaf tobacco; for Bremerhaven.—2 cases blackwoodware; for Buenos Ayres.—2 cases sundries; for London.—3 packages private effects; for Bremen.—175 rolls matting, 3 cases cigars, 3 packages tea, 3 cases paper, and 3 cases cigars; for Bremen/Hamburg.—132 rolls matting; for Hamburg.—125 packages tea, 114 rolls matting, 110 bags seeds, 102 bales feathers, 60 cases palmleaf fans, 20 cases bristles, 20 cases staranised, 6 cases fire crackers, 4 cases needles, and 2 cases silks.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—The market has ruled dull throughout the period under review, and prices have declined. New Patna closing at \$677½, Old Patna at \$680, New Benares at \$665, and Old Benares at \$700.

Milk.—There has been a fall in the prices of new descriptions, whilst Old has not undergone any alteration in value. Latest quotations are as under:

New (this yr.) \$770 with allance of 3 to 4 cts. (last yr's) \$780 " 2½ to 4 " "

Old (3/7 yrs) \$780 " 1½ to 4 " "

Persian.—A few sales have been made in the course of the week at rates which show no alteration on previous figures. Quotations continue unchanged. Oily closing at \$490 to \$560, and Paper-wrapped at \$500 to \$565 according to quality.

To day's stocks are estimated as under:

New Patna	830 chests
Old Patna	1,510 "
New Benares	843 "
Old Benares	245 "
Opium	258 "
Total	676 "

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1897.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 6	682½	682½	667½	705	770	780
Jan. 7	680	680	665	705	770	780
Jan. 8	678½	678½	665	700	770	780
Jan. 9	680	680	665	700	770	780
Jan. 10	680	680	665	700	770	780
Jan. 11	680	680	665	700	770	780
Jan. 12	678½	680	665	700	770	780
Jan. 13	677½	680	665	700	770	780

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—A moderate business has been put through at reduced rates; market closes quiet. Stock about 4,000 bales.

Bombay \$16.00 to 17.00 p. pl.

Kurrachee 16.00 to 17.00 "

Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca 16.00 to 17.50 "

Shanghai and Japanese 20.00 to 20.50 "

Tungchow and Ningpo 20.00 to 20.50 "

Madras 17.00 to 18.00 "

Sales: 600 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—The improvement last noted has not been maintained and prices are declining. Closing quotations are:

per picul.

Saigon, Ordinary \$2.35 to 2.37

" Round, good quality 2.54 to 2.57

" Long 2.70 to 2.73

Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 2.42 to 2.45

" Garden No. 1 2.76 to 2.78

" White 3.35 to 3.37

" Fine Cargo 3.54 to 3.58

COALS.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—Market strong; small sales reported on private terms. Quotations are:

Cardiff \$15.00 to 16.50 ex godown, nom.

Australian 6.25 to 6.50 ex ship, nominal.

Miike Lump 6.00 to 6.50 ex ship, nominal.

Miike Small 5.00 to 5.25 ex ship, " do "

Moji Lump 5.00 to 6.75 ex ship, steady.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn.—25 bales No. 6 at \$68, 25 bales No. 8 at \$77.50, 765 bales No. 10 at \$76 to \$82.50, 655 bales No. 12 at \$81 to \$86, 130 bales No. 16 at \$86 to \$89, 720 pieces No. 20 at \$91.50 to \$101.50. Grey Shirtings.—3,700 pieces 7 lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.96, 3,00 pieces 8½ lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.57. White Shirtings.—150 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.75, 150 pieces Gold Tiger at \$5.90. T.-Cloths.—1,200 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.95, 900 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican X. X. at \$3. Spanish Stripes.—120 pieces Assorted B. B. B. at 0.57.

METAL.—Tin.—100 slabs Siam at \$32, 100 slabs Fungchau at \$32.

Shanghai, 7th January.—(From Messrs. Noel Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report).—Piece Goods.—As we approach the end of the Chinese Year the market usually is very quiet, and the present season is no exception to this rule, but at the same time there are indications that dealers are disposed to make contracts for forward delivery on the basis of prices recently current. These overtures have, as a rule, not been entertained by Importers and the business reported is, in consequence, but small. A better feeling of enquiry is indicated at to-day's Auction, where prices are decidedly firm, and this is all the more satisfactory as clearance has not yet been extended until after the Native Holidays. The private business announced shows that demand has run chiefly on Heavy Grey Shirtings and White Shirtings, but the sales made public, it is said, do not represent the full business done, as several lines have been entered on private terms for forward delivery. English Drills and Sheetings have apparently been left quietly alone, while in American goods we have not heard of a single transaction. The few lots of 8½-lbs. Grey Shirtings that appear in the book have as a rule been sold for clearance before settling day, but there is some improvement to be noted in enquiry for the common qualities of these goods, but at prices which do not induce holders to sell. There has also been a slight revival in demand for Fanoy Goods, and a few indents have been placed for May-June shipment.

Metal.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report) 7th January:—Since our last report there has been a decided improvement in the tone of the market. The holidays have of course interfered with the volume of business, but what has been done has been at better rates, and there has been much more inquiry, which was an almost unknown thing during the latter part of last year. Reports from the interior markets show also much improvement, so we may look forward with confidence to better times. Nail rods and Old Iron.—A better feeling has sprung up in the Iron market. New Iron has gone up 10 to 15 can-lareens a picul, and Old Iron has, in sympathy, improved 10 to 12 can-dareens. 250 tons of Old Bar Croppings, Boiler Plates, and other Old Materials have been sold, but the prices have not yet leaked out.

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JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, January 13th, 1897.—The market has been a little more active during the week under review and a fair miscellaneous business has been put through at rates which in some cases show a considerable advance, in a few a slight decline, but in most no change, the market having ruled fairly steady and not affected by the China New Year bogey, which at present appears as though it would have but little ill effect on stocks generally.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai in the early part of the week changed hands at 185 per cent. prem. for the 31st instant and at 182, 183, and 184 cash; towards the close, however, the rate weakened and sales were made at 182. At time of writing 183 per cent. prem. is the ruling rate. Latest wire from London reports an advance of 10% making the rate £42.10. Nationals have found small buyers at quotation. Bank of Chinas continue neglected.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have recovered their temporary depression, a small demand having sent the rate up to \$225 without bringing out any but very small lots of shares and at time of closing none are obtainable under \$230. China Traders have again been the medium of a fair business at \$74, and closesteady. Cantons are quiet at \$174, Straits at \$26, and Yangtzes and North Chinas at quotations with small sales.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkongs and Chinas have ruled steady with small sales at quotations and close with more small lots still in demand. It is pretty generally understood that the latter will pay a dividend of 8% per share next month.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have ruled weak owing to the uncertainty of the renewal of the Northern Pool, which indirectly affects them—with small sales during the early part of the week at \$32½ and \$32¾, and later, fairly large ones at \$32½, at which latter rate shares are still obtainable. Douglasses have much improved their position, having changed hands at \$58, \$59, \$60, and \$61, closing steady at the latter rate. Indo-Chinas continue steady to strong at quotation with small and unimportant sales. China Manilas and China Mutuals are neglected, although a few of the latter preferences might be placed at quotation.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have been much neglected, only small sales having taken place at \$134, \$133½, and \$133. Linsons have been negotiated at \$46 and \$46½, closing steady at latter rate with probable further buyers.

MINING.—Punjoms have remained weak and more or less neglected with only small sales at \$10½ to \$10¾. Raubs have also ruled quiet with sales at \$9 and \$9.25, closing strong at \$9. Charbonnages have improved to \$75 with sales and more could probably be placed at the rate. Telebus continue out of favour and have fallen to \$2.25 with sellers. Balmoral have found buyers at the advanced rates of \$1.25, \$1.30, and as high as \$1.40 is reported. Oliver continue quiet with little or no business.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks after ruling firm with sales at 218, have again gone back to 216 with sales at which rate they close strong with buyers. Hongkong Wharves continue weak and neglected with small sales at \$59, and from the state of the market lower rates would probably be accepted. Wanchai remain quiet and neglected at \$43, ex dividend.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands, with a dividend of 3%, payable on the 22nd instant, have ruled very firm and shares changed hands in fair lots during the

early part of the week at \$76 and later at \$76½, the demand at the latter rate being still unsatisfied. The Company, from the report about to be issued, seems to be making steady progress, and will carry forward a larger sum than it did the last half-year. Hotels are still favourably thought of and could be placed at \$31½ shares, however, are not plentiful, holders anticipating higher rates. West Points have been somewhat firmer, the directors having decided to pay a dividend of 90 cents per share on the 22nd instant, subject to the approval of shareholders, and the prospects for the ensuing year being brighter. Humphreys Estates have been in good demand at \$9.25 and a fair number of shares have changed hands and are still wanted at the rate. Kowloon Lands have remained neglected at quotation.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Watson's have advanced to \$12.50 with sales and further small buyers. Green Islands have ruled firm and advanced to \$20 after sales at \$19 to \$19½, closing at \$20. Electrics are still in demand at \$6.50. Hongkong Ropes continue quiet with small sales at \$140. Fenwicks have been in good demand and have changed hands at \$31 to \$31½, closing firm at latter rate. Ices, after a small sale at \$109, were negotiated at \$110, at which they close with buyers. Tramways have found buyers at \$93 and Bell's Asbestos at \$7.50 and \$8, the latter closing at \$7.50. A meeting of Dakin Crickshank's shareholders held on the 11th instant confirmed the resolution previously passed to wind up the Company and a liquidator was appointed for that purpose.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks		\$353.75
Hongkong & Sh'ni...	\$125	183 1/2 per cent.
China & Japan, pref.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	\$1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	\$1	\$5, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£3	\$26, sales
Founders Shares..	£1	\$100, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	15s.	\$8, sales & sellers (in liquidation).
Brown & Co., H. G.	\$50	\$6
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$6
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$133, sales & sellers
Dakin, Crickshank & Co.	\$5	\$5, (in liquidation).
Dairy Farm Co.	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$31½, sales & buyers
Green Island Cement....	\$10	\$20
H. & China Bakery	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$110
Hongkong Electric	\$8	\$6½, sales & buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$9½, sales & sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$32, sales & sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$110, sales & buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$5½, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$14½, sales & buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	216 p. ct. prem. = \$395, sales & b.
Insurances		
Canton.....	\$50	\$177½
China Fire	\$20	\$103, sales & buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$74½, sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$365, sales
North-China	£25	Tls. 195
Straits	\$20	\$25½, sales
Union	\$25	\$225, sales & buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$144, buyers
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment.	\$50	\$7½, sales & buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9.25, sal. & buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$17, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$19, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$46½, sales & buyers
Mining		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	75, sales
Jelbu	\$5	\$2.20, sales
New Balmoral	\$3	\$1.40, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$2½, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$10½, ex. div. buyers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$3.25, ex. div. sel.
Rauda	13s. 10d.	\$9, sales & buyers
Steamship Cos.		
China and Manila	\$50	\$67, sellers
China Mutual Ord.	\$5	\$2.50
Do. Preference	£10	\$7, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co.	\$50	\$61, sales
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$32½, sales & sellers
Indo-China S. N.	£10	\$40 buyers
Wanchai Warehse Co.	\$37½	\$43½, ex. div.
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$12.25, buyers
	J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.	

SHANGHAI, 8th January.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report)—But a small business has been done this week, in the absence of buyers

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation. Only one sale, of 18 per cent. premium, for cash, is reported. Both of China and Japan Deferred shares are wanted at £5. In National Bank shares there is no change. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' shares were placed here at \$74. North-Chinas have again changed hands at Tls. 180. Yangtze's are offering at \$142, but there are no buyers over \$140. Straits have been done at \$25 and \$26 for cash, \$25.75 for the 8th January, \$26.25 for the 8th February, and \$27 for the 31st March. Fire Insurance.—There is no business reported in these stocks. Shipping.—Business has been confined to Indo-China S. N. shares, which have been placed at Tls. 29 and 29½ for cash, and Tls. 29½ for the 28th February. Sugars.—There is no business reported save one sale of Peraks at Tls. 26, at which shares are offering. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf shares changed hands at Tls. 120. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares were sold at Tls. 82½. The shares are all fully paid up, but those on which the Tls. 20 have been paid since the 30th June will rank for dividend on Tls. 30 only for the latter half of the year. Kowloon Land & Building shares were sold to Hongkong at 16. Industrial.—Two Cotton S. & W. shares were placed at Tls. 81. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Cooperative Cargo Boats shares were sold at Tls. 18½ for cash and Tls. 190 for the 31st March. Miscellaneous.—The Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co. paid an interim dividend of 4 per cent., Tls. 2.94, yesterday, on account of the 1895 crop. We quote the shares at Tls. 97 ex dividend. Shanghai-Langkat Tobacco shares have been placed at Tls. 275 and Tls. 280 cash, Tls. 305 and Tls. 307½ for the 31st March, and Tls. 350 for the 31st July. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares changed hands at Tls. 80. Loans.—Shanghai Land Investment Company's 5 per cent. Detentures were sold at Tls. 103½.

There are three vessels disengaged in port, registered 3,561 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Friedburg—German ship, 1,895 tons, proceeds to Manila under orders from owners.

Ladakh—British ship, 1,908 tons, left for Iloilo under orders from owners.

Bygia—German barque, 338 tons, left for Taiwan.

Galveston—German barque, 619 tons, sold for \$5,300.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.20 per ton.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,146 tons, Moji to Hongkong and Canton, \$1.20 and \$1.50 per ton.

Benlomond—British steamer, 1,756 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.5 per ton.

Donar—German steamer, 1,766 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$2.10 per ton.

Chunlong—British steamer, 1,418 tons, Kuching to Singapore, \$2.10 per ton.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 9½ cents per picul.

Benlavers—British steamer, 1,484 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

J. Christensen—Norwegian steamer, 1,333 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Decima—German steamer, 1,145 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Deuterous—German steamer, 1,251 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Daphne—German steamer, 1,290 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Ingrahan—German steamer, 894 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Telaros—German steamer, 1,575 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11 cents per picul.

Albingia—German steamer, 1,201 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 11½ cents per picul.

Tordenskjold—Norwegian steamer, 904 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 21 cents per picul.

Swallow—German steamer, 724 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$2,000.

Daphne—German steamer, 1,290 tons, Swallow to Saigon, private terms.

Swallow—German steamer, 724 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, 26 cents per picul.

Tancred—Norwegian steamer, 786 tons, Kebo to Hongkong, \$1 per ton.

Sulberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, 8 months, \$4,000 per month.

Dante—German steamer, 1,302 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$4,500 per month.

Deuterous—German steamer, 1,198 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$4,750 per month.

Telaros—German steamer, 1,578 tons, monthly, 6/3 months, \$6,000 per month.

Ingrahan—German steamer, 894 tons, monthly, 6/6 months, \$4,000 per month.

Albingia—German steamer, 1,201 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$4,200 per month.

Strathallan—British steamer, 1,489 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$6,500 per month.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$4,500 per month.

Picciola—German steamer, 875 tons, monthly, 6/6 months, \$3,800 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—*Orestes* (str.), *Borneo* (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—*Matterhorn* (str.), *City of Peking* (str.), *Sundace* (str.), *China* (str.).

For BREMEN.—*Prins Heinrich* (str.).

For VICTORIA.—*Mount Lebanon* (str.), *Olympia* (str.).

For NEW YORK.—*Benjamin Sewall*, *Port Adelaide* (str.), *Polyphemus* (str.), *Penobscot*.

For VANCOUVER.—*Empress of China* (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—*Tamise* (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—*Yamashiro Maru* (str.), *Australien* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

January—ARRIVALS.

6. *Daphne*, German str., from Chinkiang.

6. *Kiangnan*, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.

6. *Esang*, British str., from Canton.

6. *Doris*, German str., from Haiphong.

6. *Picciola*, German str., from Sourabaya.

6. *Hohenzollern*, German str., from Amoy.

7. *Loong moon*, German str., from Canton.

7. *Tientsin*, British str., from Canton.

7. *Namee*, British str., from Quon-poo.

7. *Chowfa*, British str., from Bangkok.

7. *Frigga*, German str., from Bassein.

7. *Tantalus*, British str., from Canton.

8. *Taisang*, British str., from Canton.

8. *Kalgan*, British str., from Canton.

8. *Kaiser*, German str., from Victoria.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 18th January.—During the past fortnight there has been a good demand for steam tonnage, a large number of fixtures having been made and rates in all directions continuing firm. From Saigon to Hongkong several fixtures are reported at 11 cents. From Saigon in other directions the demand seems to have fallen off and there is not much enquiry at present. Bangkok to Hongkong, steamers of regular lines at 10/11 cents per picul are getting fair support, but there does not at present seem to be more cargo than they can carry and outside tonnage is not enquired for. From Java to this there is nothing doing. From the Philippines to Hongkong there is a little demand and tonnage might be fixed at rates in advance of last quotations. Japan coal freights remain about as last quoted. From Moji to Singapore the rate is now about \$2.15 and to Hongkong \$1.20 per ton. Several steamers have been taken up on monthly terms, the rates paid generally being low. Sailing tonnage.—No settlements are reported.

8. Amara, British str., from Japan.
 8. Ask, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
 8. Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 8. Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
 8. Ily, German cruiser, from Manila.
 8. Koningin Wilhelmina, Ned. cruiser, from Saigon.
 8. Nanyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
 8. Progress, German str., from Haiphong.
 8. Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
 9. Yungching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 9. Ingraban, German str., from Touron.
 9. Canton, British str., from Shanghai.
 10. Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 10. Miike Maru, Jap. str., from Bombay.
 10. Oscar II, Norw. str., from New York.
 10. Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Amoy.
 10. Sendai Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 10. Shanghai, British str., from London.
 10. Sunda, British str., from Yokohama.
 11. Ancona, British str., from Yokohama.
 11. Sullberg, German str., from Haiphong.
 11. Bengloe, British str., from London.
 11. Taiwan, British str., from Shanghai.
 11. Albingia, British str., from Moji.
 11. Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 11. Omi Maru, Jap str., from Melbourne.
 11. Peiyang, German str., from Chinkiang.
 11. Daphne, German str., from Canton.
 11. Whampoa, British str., from Chinkiang.
 11. Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
 11. Mirzapore, British str., from Bombay.
 11. Taichio, British str., from Bangkok.
 11. Glamorganshire, British str., from London.
 12. Ganges, British str., from Shanghai.
 12. Glenfarg, British str., from London.
 12. Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.
 12. Hong Leong, British str., from Singapore.
 12. Peshawur, British str., from Bombay.
 12. Machew, British str., from Saigon.
 12. Atlantic, German bark, from Amoy.
 12. Pakshan, British str., from Singapore.
 13. Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.
 13. Kiangnan, British str., from Canton.
 13. Yungching, Chinese str., from Canton.
 13. Pakling, British str., from Moji.
 13. Chiuyen, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 13. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Bremen.
 13. Alacrity, British des.-ves., from Saigon.
 13. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 13. Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
 13. Tacoma, British str., from New York.
 13. M. Bacquehem, Austrian str., from Kobe.
 13. Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.
 13. Pyrrhus, British str., from Amoy.

January—DEPARTURES.

6. Diu, Portuguese gunboat, for Macao.
 6. Machias, Amr. cruiser, for Canton.
 6. Yarra, French str., for Europe.
 6. Decima, German str., for Saigon.
 6. Glengarry, British str., for London.
 6. Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 6. Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
 6. Tsinan, British str., for Australia.
 7. Daphne, German str., for Canton.
 7. Mathilde, German str., for Hoihow.
 7. Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Canton.
 7. City of Peking, Amr. str., for S. F'cisco.
 7. Hailoong, British str., for Amoy.
 7. Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 7. Bayern, German str., for Europe.
 7. Esang, British str., for Shanghai.
 7. Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
 7. Sachem, Amr. ship, for New York.
 7. Kaiser, German flagship, for a cruise.
 7. Irene, German cruiser, for Amoy.
 8. Chowtai, British str., for Bangkok.
 8. Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 8. Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
 8. Nord, Norw. str., for Singapore.
 8. Strathallan, British str., for Hongay.
 8. Tordenskjold, Norw. str., for Saigon.
 9. Nanyang, German str., for Canton.
 9. Frigga, German str., for Shanghai.
 9. Sungkhang, British str., for Manila.
 9. Changsha, British str., for Yokohama.
 9. Kaiser, German flagship, for a cruise.
 9. Federation, British str., for Amoy.
 9. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 9. Tancred, Norw. str., for Kobe.
 10. Benlawers, British str., for Saigon.
 10. Doris, German str., for Hoihow.
 10. Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 10. Hupeh, British str., for Java.
 10. Namo, British str., for Coast Ports.
 10. Strathallan, Brit. str., for Hongay.
 10. Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.

10. Tantalus, British str., for Nagasaki.
 10. Yungching, Chinese str., for Canton.
 11. Taiwan, British str., for Canton.
 11. Canton, British str., for Canton.
 11. Peiyang, German str., for Canton.
 12. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
 12. Chowfa, British str., for Bangkok.
 12. Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 12. Daphne, German str., for Swatow.
 12. Deuterros, German str., for Saigon.
 12. Formosa, British str., for Amoy.
 12. Mirzapore, British str., for Shanghai.
 12. Picciola, German str., for Bangkok.
 12. Strathtay, British str., for Moji.
 12. Sunda, British str., for London.
 13. Glamorganshire, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Hong Leong, British str., for Amoy.
 13. Kutsang, British str., for Calcutta.
 13. Oscar II, Norw. str., for Shanghai.
 13. Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., for Swatow.
 13. Tulenkun, Amr. sch., for Ponape.

Per *Glenfarg*, str., from London, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Woolley. Messrs. Gould and Baker.
 Per *Ganges*, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong.—Mr. A. Duncan, Mr. and Miss Wong Fat Hing and 2 children; Mr. Sharpe, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Horsey, and infant. Messrs. Cunningham, C. H. Ross, S. V. French, A. S. Murray, R. H. Burder, Junk Lai Hing, and H. Vernon, A.B. For Penang—Mr. J. S. Kennedy. For London via Marseilles—Dr. and Mrs. L. S. Little, Dr. R. Swallow.

Per *Pakshan*, str., from Singapore—Mr. Cook.

DEPARTED.

Per *Australian*, str., for Kobe—Miss Helms and Mr. Crawford.

Rev. Vivet, Bro. Gabriel, Mr. Planté.

Per *Haitan*, str., for Foochow—Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Oveyrin, and Mr. Chas. Gerber.

Per *Yarra*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon

—Messrs. Grodekoff and Khun Hoanh Tuyoh. For Singapore—Mr. and Mrs. Fearing, Mr. and Mrs. Chu, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Renouf, Mrs. Discours, Mrs. Alice Maddock, Mrs. Henry Maddock, Miss Lucy Curtis, Messrs. W. Curtis, H. Maddock, S. Maddock, H. Cecil, and Bro. Andre. For Colombo—Mr. and Mrs. O. H. Curtaz, and Mr. C. F. Villiers Chapman. For Marseilles—Messrs. E. Bouton and J. Petersen. From Shanghai for Saigon—Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Happer, Mrs. V. Ferry. For Port Said—Mr. Nicconoff. For Marseilles—Messrs. Chauveau and W. Alexander. From Yokohama for Saigon—Mr. and Mrs. Lacan, Mr. and Mrs. Chauvin. For Singapore—Messrs. J. C. Campbell and T. Kondo. For Marseilles—Messrs. H. Nakayama and E. L. Descours, Mr. and Mrs. Bent and 2 children, Mr. A. G. Wise. From Kobe for Saigon—Mrs. Gabiot.

Per *Esmeralda*, str., for Manila—Mrs. Josepa Calbo and child, Mr. and Mrs. R. Menant, Mr. W. A. Main, and Mr. De Souza.

Per *Glengarry*, str., for London—Mr. J. H. Jarvois.

Per *City of Peking*, str., for Shanghai—Mr. Rieber and Mr. E. F. Schmidt. For Nagasaki—Mr. A. Platt. For Yokohama—Mr. C. H. Best, Mr. and Mrs. Layard and child. For Honolulu—Mr. Chang San. For San Francisco—Mrs. A. B. Brolly, Miss Hart, Miss L. A. Duryea, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Whitney.

Per *Bayern*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore—Messrs. Wm. D. Whipple, C. W. C. Deering, F. Leloir, A. C. Leloir, C. Rohl, P. MacManns, C. J. Demee, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Owen, Messrs. Chan Joan Sun, Ten But Hing, and Chea Ting Cheung. For Port Said—Mr. N. Rydzewsky. For Genoa—Messrs. R. Daeschner, A. Buchhoff, and A. C. Leon. For Bremen—Messrs. B. Christiansen, A. Lohahn, Behr, Kobleuske, Henrich, R. Schablousky. For Bremerhaven—Messrs. A. Tertruny, Lanzenning, Berenbrook, and Schult. For Naples—Mr. W. Mutzschke. For Southampton—Mr. J. Laing, Mrs. Wilson and 2 children, Messrs. Alex. Park and D. Nacher. From Yokohama for Singapore—Mr. A. W. Simons. For Bremen—Messrs. Hevrels, Merter, and Weihmann. From Hyogo for Bremen—Mr. J. Larsen. From Shanghai for Genoa—Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Killie, Mr. and Mrs. Grunwaldt, Messrs. J. von Schaefer, J. Ehlers, and C. Heckmann. For Bremen—Mr. and Mrs. Faure and child, Mr. G. Diesel. For London—Mr. and Mrs. Pollock. For Hamburg—Mrs. Skerdal and children. For Naples—Mr. J. A. Norcross.

Per *Tsinan*, str., for Sydney—Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Armitage, Mr. and Mrs. W. Milne, Mr. K. D. Adams, and Miss Faith Box.

Per *Esang*, str., for Swatow—Messrs. Hart Buck and G. H. Potts.

Per *Sungkhang*, str., for Manila—Messrs. W. Peachey and W. O. Keay.

Per *Sunda*, str., from Hongkong for Singapore—Capt. Tyers. For Southampton—Capt. F. H. Young, Lieut. H. W. Kelsall, Surg.-Major S. Westcott, Quarter-Master Sergt. and Mrs. Blackler and 2 children. For London—Capt. Sterling, A.D.C. For London from Yokohama—Comdr. T. H. Fisher and Mr. J. Isdale. From Shanghai—Messrs. H. Richards and W. Wise, Mr. and Mrs. Sweetser, Miss Sweetser, and Mr. Saunders. For Singapore from Shanghai—Mrs. Cunningham.

Per *Formosa*, str., for Amoy—Mr. S. Stepanov.